



THE TIMES Tomorrow

The odd couple Lloyd Webber brings Melvyn Bragg's novel, *The Hired Man*, to the West End



Less-majestic
Roger Scruton on the temerity of trying to bring Scargill to court

Peaceful season
Bright colours are in store for men this autumn

Game plan
Can future Olympics be saved from boycotts?

Portfolio

When a friend gave Mr Jack Warner, a retired classical worker, of Fulham, Road, Southwark, London, a Portfolio card, he passed it on to his wife, as he already had one. On Saturday, his wife's card won a dividend in the £2,000 daily Times Portfolio competition - and so did his own. The couple took two-thirds of the dividend, the other third going to Mr Frank Dwyer, of Island Walk, Whiteable, Kent.

The £20,000 weekly Times Portfolio winner is a retired consultant anaesthetist, Dr David Dangerfield of Bromley, Kent. He was relieved that he had missed a full weekly list on Saturday as Dr Dangerfield, a regular reader of the *Times*, had missed copies at the beginning of the week because of a fire in the paper's printing works last week. Today's list, page 18, how to play, pack page.

Gromyko at E Berlin celebrations

Differences between East Germany and the Soviet Union were played down when Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, attended the thirty-fifth anniversary celebrations of the East German state in Berlin. But Moscow continued to underline the threat posed by West Germany.

Market call

Mr Jeffrey Knight, the London Stock Exchange's chief executive, has called for stock markets in the EEC to link to meet fierce overseas competition.

Airliner alert

Two Norwegian fighters were scrambled to stop an American airliner, carrying 200 passengers and five hundred miles off course, from crossing into Soviet air space.

Fire kills five

A woman and four children were killed in a fire in Nottingham when they were trapped in the third storey of their terraced house.

Grand finale

The race to become world champion ended when Alain Prost won the European grand prix, the penultimate event, to close the gap on his teammate Niki Lauda.

Masterstroke

Sandy Lyle kept his nerve, the Claret Trophy and a £23,000 cheque by beating Severiano Ballesteros in a sudden death finish in Paris.

Leader page 15

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Runcie challenges Tories' handling of miners' strike

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has delivered an outspoken challenge to the Government's handling of the miners' strike and its economic policies in general.

Asked "How long can we wait for jam tomorrow?" he denounced unprecedented levels of unemployment, despair and poverty in the community, inequitable sacrifices and those who "treat people as scum".

He was speaking to the Church of England's senior bishops who met in London under his chairmanship, and his remarks are thought to reflect the tone of his discussions.

On Saturday the Bishop of Birmingham, Dr Hugh Montefiore, who holds the key "social responsibility" chairmanship in the Church, condemned the Government's "politics of confrontation" and said that the miners' strike was motivated by understandable fear of the future.

Meanwhile the Bishop of Durham, the Right Rev David Jenkins, yesterday described his attempts to sway the Secretary of State for Energy, Mr Peter Walker, as almost a "dialogue of the deaf".

Mr Walker had asked the bishop, as one who had studied Marxist theory, to declare whether Mr Arthur Scargill was bent on a political crusade to undermine democracy. The bishop disclosed that he had a private meeting with Mr Walker last Wednesday.

The indications are that most senior bishops wish to see the Church take a high profile in present public political controversy, in spite of the considerable risks. A relatively small number, perhaps no more than half a dozen diocesan bishops of the 44, believe that the Church should either support the Government or keep silent.

In his interview with *The Times*, Dr Runcie called in question the Government's fundamental economic objectives. Violence on the picket lines, he said, could be traced back to violent language to "cheap imputation of the worst possible motives, treating people as scum in speech".

He challenged policies which caused "unemployment on an unprecedented scale, poverty, bureaucracy, despair about the future of some communities, and inequitable sharing of the sacrifices called for".

If those were the consequences, then an Archbishop of Canterbury had to question the policies even if economic growth, better living standards, higher pay and the recovery of national pride were self-evidently worth aiming for. Anger, fear, a sense of injustice and violence were damaging the fabric of the nation, Dr Runcie said.

He condemned violent picketing, but spread the blame for it wider than the miners. "In a society where there is felt to be unfairness, or in a society where things matter more than people, or where there is a lack of meaning, or responsibility or fulfilment to life, it comes out in this awful cancer of violence."

People were being desensitized to violence, Dr Runcie said. Violent language distorted the truth, poisoned the atmosphere and inflamed passion. "Abuse, the cheap imputation of the worst possible motives, treating people as scum in speech, all this pumping vituperation into the atmosphere has a deep effect on the possibilities of physical violence."

Dr Runcie went on to say that Britain needed leadership which would unite, not divide, the nation, adding: "That's not an attack on the Government, I think there are people in all the parties who have a much greater sense of agreement than you might think, leadership which would unite and not divide the nation."

The archbishop's word were carefully considered, and he had prepared extensive notes from which he sometimes read directly. Tape recordings were made by *The Times* and by Lambeth Palace staff, and transcripts were checked against each other afterwards.

Asked what would follow if there was no change of course, Dr Runcie replied: "Bitterness and anger will spread especially if power supplies are affected. We shall all suffer economically, and the divisions will take generations to heal... there is a danger there will be increased authoritarian kind of government, either from the right or the left."

He began the interview by saying: "Archbishops should stick to principles", and ended by saying that he wanted to avoid simplistic statements, but "as a Christian you have to speak for those who are suffering most".

The interview adds the archbishop's full weight to the Church's unprecedented intervention in the political arena, and comes on the eve of the conference of the Conservative Party, once a traditional ally of the Church of England.

A factor to justify this new political role, in the minds of some bishops, appears to be the lack of effective political resistance to the Government from the "middle ground" of secular politics, because the Labour Party is seen as tied to Mr Scargill.

He received pleasing reports about the number of "graduates" getting jobs from the first year's intake of the Youth Training Scheme. He said: "What young people need is skill and the right approach. The jobs are there."

Mr Pym, the former Foreign Secretary, says in the present edition of *Crossbow*, the Tory Bow Group quarterly: "We should be concerned about our young people who have been brought up in hope to be the proud inheritors of a glittering consumer society, and who emerged from school or college to find that it is a sham."

That message is certain to be echoed in Brighton this week. But the criticism went further last night, with Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, being used to increase the Tory divide.

Mr Michael Liggins, the Bow Group chairman, replied last night to Mrs Thatcher's angry reaction to his criticism of the Government's approach as cautious, defensive and a "cop-out".

Mr Thatcher had told Mr Liggins that far from running out of steam, the Government was pressing on full steam ahead with privatization.

Mr Liggins last night replied with a quotation from Mr Fowler, also writing in the present *Crossbow*, who says: "It is important that as well as taking the action we also win the argument - that privatization is not some apocryphal dogma to Labour's policy of nationalization."

Diary, page 14

He said in a radio interview on the BBC radio programme *The World this Weekend*: "Don't think that it's all black in this country; there are a quarter of a million people more in work at this time than there were 12 months ago."

But the Prime Minister's concern about unemployment, and his potential political consequences for the Conservative Party, have undoubtedly stimulated the appointment of Mr David Young as the Cabinet's own job creation expert.

The Cabinet Office announced on Saturday night that Mr Young, Minister without Portfolio, former chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, would head a special Enterprise Unit designed to promote employment opportunities.

Mr Young said in another radio interview yesterday that as Mrs Beloff's case raises wider questions as to whether journalists are entitled to interview people who may be critical of the regime.

The two plain clothes police who carried out the search on Saturday, alleged that Mrs Beloff had engaged in activities contrary to Yugoslav law. One chapter of the manuscript of her book was confiscated, as well as all her notes of interviews with officials, critics and dissidents.

The search warrant was issued on the grounds that there was "well founded suspicion that Mrs Beloff was in possession of hostile objects". Mrs Beloff, who had intended to leave the country yesterday, did so.

Mrs Beloff began work on the book, which deals with seven "myths" about Yugoslavia, three years ago, and since then has visited the country frequently and travelled extensively in it. Among the numerous people she met was Mr Milorad Djilas, Yugoslavia's most famous dissident.

For the next five days the Queen will be staying privately with one of Kentucky's leading horsebreeders, Mr and Mrs William Farish.

The Farishes have a farm just outside the historic city of Lexington, Mr Farish, who is 45, is vice-president of the Jockey Club of the United States and heir to a Texas oil fortune. His wife, Sarah, is a Du Pont heiress. They are, in the parlance of Kentucky's aristocracy, "old money" and therefore quite suitable to play host and hostess to the Queen.



Reining Princess: Anne keeps her seat at the water jump during yesterday's horse trials at Rotherfield Park, near Alton, Hampshire.

Space walk postponed for two days

A walk in space by two American astronauts, Lieutenant-Commander David Leestma and Dr Kathryn Sullivan, has been postponed from tomorrow until Thursday, NASA said in Houston yesterday (Our Foreign Staff writes).

The delay is to give the crew of the shuttle Challenger more time to transmit geographical pictures of the Earth. The mission's Earth-scanning experiment was threatened after antennae failed to work properly.

Yesterday the astronauts manoeuvred Challenger to point its disabled dish antenna at the tracking and data relay satellite. On Saturday the crew found that a wing of an imaging radar antenna in the cargo bay had become loose. Dr Sally Ride used the shuttle's robot arm to push the antenna down so that automatic latches could close.

The future of the British Embassy in Beirut was unclear last night after threats that it would be the next target for a terrorist attack (Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

The consulate in west Beirut is expected to reopen today after being closed last week while its security was strengthened, but the main embassy office in the eastern part of the city has been closed and will stay shut pending a decision in Whitehall.

The Foreign Office would not comment on the nature of the threats against the Embassy and its 12 diplomats headed by the Ambassador, Mr David Miers. Nor would officials discuss the special measures introduced amid fears that the British mission had been selected by Shia fundamentalists for a suicide bombing.

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Acas in fresh pit peace moves

By Paul Runtledge and Glen Allan

The miners' strike goes into its thirty-first week today with fresh attempts by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service to bring the warring parties together but little prospect of an early end to the conflict.

However, the threat of a walkout by pit deputies that would have brought the industry to a halt has been averted, temporarily at least.

Leaders of the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shaftfitters met Mr Ian McGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, for 90 minutes in Doncaster yesterday and agreed to sponsor a new peace initiative under the auspices of Acas. In the meantime, the union's general secretary, Mr Peter McNestery, "hoped" that the strike would go ahead today would not go ahead.

The centrepiece of the latest initiative is independent arbitration to act as a court of "final appeal" on the issue of pit closures. But the proposal came

under criticism from both the Government and the National Union of Mineworkers yesterday. It looks less likely to form the basis of a settlement to end the protracted dispute.

Mr McGregor will meet Acas officials today and miners' leaders are likely to join the new round of tentative negotiations later in the week, perhaps tomorrow. Five miners' leaders are due to appear in the High Court in London on Wednesday to answer a commitment proceeding brought by two "dissident" Yorkshire pitmen.

The colliery supervisors made clear yesterday that their aim is to act as a catalyst in the peace process rather than to implement swiftly their members' 82.5 per cent vote for an all-out strike, originally due to have begun at midnight last night.

Mr McNestery said after yesterday's talks: "Both of us agreed to seek an urgent meeting with Acas and to ask them to use their good offices to help solve this dispute. We have made a lot more progress today than at any time in the last seven months."

Mr Ken Sampey, president of the pit deputies, added: "We are asking Acas to use their skill and expertise to help us out of this problem. I want to get everybody in the same room and chuck the key away until this is settled."

Yesterday's discussions between the deputies and the board were conducted in an amicable atmosphere but the cordiality did not extend to the miners' union. Mr Peter Heathfield, the NUM general secretary, told *The Times*: "The

Continued on page 2, col 3

Report on Ronan Point 'altered'

By Charles Knowlton, Architecture Correspondent

A paragraph describing the strength of the Ronan Point structural walls as being comparable only to "the glass in a good window" was deleted from a public inquiry report by a government official, an expert on the tower block has claimed.

The passage was written by Professor Sir Alfred Pugsley, who contributed the section on structural failure to the report of the inquiry into the collapse of the 22-storey building in 1968.

Mr Sam Webb, an architect who has prepared a report on the defects of the tower, says the paragraph was removed against Sir Alfred's wishes.

Mr Webb will submit his allegations to Newham Council in east London tomorrow when it meets to discuss the block and five others in borough built to a similar design.

Mr Webb alleges that Sir Alfred's contribution to the report was deliberately toned down to avoid public alarm and to conceal the extent of the faults discovered in the block.

After a gas explosion caused the partial collapse of Ronan Point killing five people, more than £100m was spent strengthening 507 blocks containing 28,700 flats throughout Britain.

Last week the Department of the Environment said it had no list of all those blocks, even though the Ministry of Housing issued the figures which were published in May 1970.

New evidence of faults in the crucial H2 joint at Ronan Point has led to calls for new structural surveys to be undertaken on all the blocks which were repaired. Two other London councils ordered tests on some of their Taylor Woodrow Anglian blocks last week.

Mr Webb said yesterday: "A new list must be drawn up immediately so that surveys may be conducted. It is a matter of extreme urgency, people's lives are at risk."

A terrible mistake has been made. But it has been suppressed by every means possible over a very long period of time. The force of gravity cannot be altered by fine legal phrases, just as the advisers of King Canute could advise him to stop the tide."

Mr Webb said Sir Alfred damned Ronan Point on the grounds of wind, load-bearing capability, fire and stress. But to speed up the findings, the inquiry concerned itself only with the cause of the explosion, the structural parts of Ronan Point, and recommendations.

Mr Webb said: "It omitted to ask the originator of the (Larsen Nielsen system, under licence to Taylor Woodrow Anglian) to give evidence or say why it was rarely used above six storeys in Denmark, where

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Electricity group to oppose price surcharge to pay for pit strike

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Government plans to recoup the cost of the miners' strike through an increase in electricity prices will be opposed, the Electricity Consumers' Council says.

Mr John Hatch, the council's chairman, launching its annual report published today, said: "There is no justification whatsoever for electricity consumers to carry on subsidizing the coal industry. The electricity industry has for too long been paying too much for the UK coal it uses."

The outcome of the current dispute between the National Coal Board and some of its employees will have long-term implications for the price of coal. Coal is used to generate electricity and expensive coal means unnecessarily high electricity bills for household consumers and industry."

Mr Hatch said it would be wrong if the extra costs of generating electricity from heavy oil led to an increase in electricity prices. The council felt that the Government should adjust the power industry's financing limits to reflect the extra costs.

The council's annual report also supports the Electricity Council view that future increases in power prices should be less than the annual inflation rate. The electricity supply industry's financial targets, soon to be set by the Government, should allow them to pass on efficiency gains by keeping prices down. The consumers' council also says that if the industry is correct about the benefits of its nuclear programme it is important that it should demonstrate the practical benefits soon through cost and price reductions.

The Treasury has already told the Department of Energy that it favours recouping the extra

cost of the miners' strike on power generation, so far more than £500m, and rising at the rate of more than £25m a week, through a power price surcharge.

The Treasury favours the electricity consumer rather than the taxpayer footing the bill, with the clear message that the miners are to blame, but the electricity supply industry is in no mood to be used as a government revenue collector for the second year running.

The industry lost the battle last year, when Treasury "economic pricing" policies resulted in price rises at a time of record profits in the industry. The industry feels that it should be allowed to pass on to the customer the benefit of its efforts to cut costs, reduce staffing and raise efficiency.

The Central Electricity Generating Board has said that the extra cost of generating more power from oil cannot be fully calculated until after the end of the miners' strike and the Electricity Council has already made it clear that it would prefer to be given a three-year financial target of 2 per cent return on assets. This would enable it to keep price increases below the inflation rate.

However, the Electrical Power Engineers' Association, whose members control the power stations and the operation of the national grid, has calculated that electricity prices would rise by between 20 and 30 per cent next year if the industry has to bear the cost of the miners' strike.

The association has written to Mr Peter Heathfield, Secretary of State for Energy, suggesting that the costs of the dispute should be borne by the nation "through the appropriate use of the Government's own financial resources".

Miners in praise of Soviet life

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Soviet press has quoted several of the striking miners now on holiday in the Soviet Union as praising the Soviet system and thanking Moscow for its support during the strike. The miners, mostly from Yorkshire, said police and judicial impartiality in Britain was a myth.

Komsomolskaya Pravda yesterday carried an interview with Mr Thomas Appleyard, a Yorkshire miner, at Pitsunda on the Black Sea. Last week, a group of 150 miners and their families flew to Pitsunda for a two-and-a-half-week holiday at the Russians' expense.

Mr Appleyard and his wife, Mary, who have been to Russia before, told Komsomolskaya Pravda they were enraptured by the Soviet Union.

The paper quoted Mr and Mrs Appleyard as saying the contrast between Russia and Yorkshire was difficult to grasp: "It is such happiness to be here after what we've been through there."

The group leaders, Mr Derek Reeves and Mr John Thompson, told the paper that their illusions of police and court impartiality had been shattered by the strike.

● Fed up with being assaulted and having his car damaged, a working miner, Mr Brian Stokes, aged 29, of Stoke-on-Trent, plans to break his union's overtime ban this week as a protest.

● Conservative MPs have criticized a decision to send harvest festival gifts to striking miners and their families. Mr John Wells, MP for Maidstone, Kent, said: "It would be a misappropriation of people's offerings".

Scargill 'must obey courts'

By Our Political Correspondent

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, predicted yesterday that Mr Arthur Scargill and the National Union of Mineworkers would be brought to heel by the High Court.

He said in a BBC radio interview on *The World This Week*: "Ultimately, a court order has to be obeyed." He added: "The judges, in my view, will ensure that the proper orders of the court are observed."

Sir Michael emphasised that Wednesday's resumed contempt proceedings, adjourned by Mr Justice Nicholls last Wednesday so that Mr Scargill could consider his defiance of the court, had nothing to do with either Conservative legislation or with Mr MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board.

He said: "It is two Yorkshire miners saying that their union is breaking the rules."

The Government would have to stand on the sidelines because contempt proceedings were entirely out of minister's hands. But Sir Michael said that the judge had a number of options open to him.

"It may well be that the first course will be a very substantial fine, and then there may be sequestration."

He was then asked if imprisonment might be the next step. He said: "If continuing contempt, much broadcast and much advertised is maintained it may well be that he will have to take that course."

● Mr Stuart Bell, Labour MP for Middlesbrough, yesterday accused Sir Michael of flouting his own rules of subjudice and trying to influence the judge (the Press Association reports).

Spectrum, page 12

Woman and 4 children killed in home fire

A mother and four children died in a burning house in Nottingham yesterday, but in Scunthorpe two sleeping babies escaped after an explosion wrecked a block of terraced houses. In west Wales, sixty buildings were damaged by a blast believed to have been caused by a fractured gas main, in the seaside resort of Saundersfoot.

In Nottingham, the fire swept through a three-storey terraced house in Waterloo Promenade, Radford, the home of two sisters and their six children. Neighbours made several rescue attempts but were unable to help the victims, who were trapped at the top of the house. They watched, as the children screamed and banged frantically on the windows while flames roared through the building.

One of the women threw her child 20ft to the ground from an upstairs window, and then jumped herself. Both were badly injured. Another child was rescued by a neighbour.

The dead were named as Mrs Vanda Urbacz, aged 23, and her sons Julian, aged two weeks, James, aged two, and Cornell, aged eight. Her nephew, Christopher Urbacz, aged eight, also died.

In Scunthorpe, Matthew Smith, aged six months, was plucked unhurt from heaps of debris by his mother, who was blown yards through the air by the blast.

Mrs Sharon Smith, aged 23,



Mr Tony Smith, whose wife and son escaped the blast, among the ruins of his home in Scunthorpe.

dug through the debris with her hands and found her baby son alive under his cot which had turned over beneath a pile of wreckage.

Meanwhile, in the same devastated modern block of privately owned houses, Haley-Ann Gibson, aged 22 months, emerged unscathed from the

explosion which left the family home wrecked. Their four houses were wrecked, three of them reduced to debris, and an identical neighbouring block badly damaged in the explosion at Briar Way.

The blast in the early hours of the morning, which was heard 15 miles away, is believed to

have come from one of the houses which had been unoccupied for six months until last week.

In Saundersfoot, a three-storey shop at the centre of the blast, was destroyed and windows and doors up to a quarter of a mile away were smashed. A witness described the scenes as "like a horror movie".

More than 100 people were evacuated from their homes after the breakfast-time blast, which left dozens of homes without gas. One man was slightly hurt in the explosion.

Throughout the day there were about sixty small explosions of gas pockets trapped under the blazing shop in the village centre.

Miners and board in fresh moves

Continued from page 1

question of the colliery review procedure can be discussed after the dispute is settled.

"That is not the central issue; it is the board's willingness to withdraw the March 6 closure programme in view of the situation in the industry. After seven months of strike it seems irrelevant to the problems facing the industry."

He added: "I do not think Mrs Thatcher will allow anything to happen this week. She is not willing to go to her conference with her Iron Lady image tarnished so she will deter McGregor from reaching a settlement."

The deputies' initiative was attacked by the Government and the miners yesterday. Speaking on BBC radio *World*

This Weekend Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said: "I think it is difficult to see just how such a proposal could be made compatible with the board's statutory obligations."

Referring to remarks made by Mr Peter Heathfield, the NUM general secretary, earlier on the same programme, Mr Tebbit said: "Mr Heathfield does seem to have changed the position of the NUM in that he seemed willing to accept that there would be closures of uneconomic pits through some machinery or other."

Mr Heathfield said later: "We would obviously not be willing to sign an agreement that gave the employer authority to close pits at infinitum."

Scottish left advances

The Labour left is set to make impressive gains in Scotland when MPs come up for re-election in December. The advance will be largely bloodless as party stalwarts follow the example of Mr Gordon Mackenzie MP for Rothburgh, and retire from politics.

Mr James White, who won Glasgow Pollok for Labour in 1970, said yesterday that he was standing down.

Other eminent Labour members in Scotland who have been facing increasing opposition from the left and are likely to stand down are Mr Hugh Brown in Glasgow Provan; Mr William Hamilton in Fife Central; and Mr Harry Goudry of Kircaldy.

Mr Ian Campbell, who held Dumbarton since 1970, could stand again as an independent.

'Shambles' if councils abolished

Abolition of seven large councils will encourage regional offices of ministries to usurp their powers, a research report claims. The strategic decisions of the seven councils will be delayed by squabbling among smaller authorities that are supposed to take over their tasks, it adds.

The report, from the Institute of Local Government Studies at Birmingham University, was commissioned by the six metropolitan county councils that ministers want to abolish in 18 months' time.

Greater Manchester, West Midlands, Tyne and Wear, Merseyside, and South and West Yorkshire, say in a joint statement that abolition will produce a shambles instead of the streamlining claimed by ministers.

The Government wants to scrap them at the same time as the Greater London Council. The councils intend to issue the statement and report during the Conservative conference this week.

Mr Norman Flynn and Mr Steven Leach, who compiled the report, say that the replacement authorities are likely to be "bogged down" by local rivalries and dominated by officials, instead of elected councillors.

Ronan Point report 'altered by official'

Continued from page 1

it came from it omitted to say why in America this type of construction had been banned above six stories; and it omitted to cross-examine the engineer who designed Ronan Point."

More time was devoted to the cause of the explosion than to the implications for the building industry.

It would appear that a paragraph written by Sir Alfred was deleted by a Ministry of Housing official. But a revised version handwritten in the margin of this copy of the draft never appeared in the final report as published.

According to Mr Webb, the part of Sir Alfred's evidence which was deleted in a broad-nibbed pen with purple ink read: "However, in popular terms to make walls strong enough to resist 60lbs per sq ft is only to make them about as strong as the glass in a good window."

After this was deleted, Sir Alfred is alleged to have written in the margin as an alternative: "However, it would seem to us, very unfortunate if in a wind liable to break many glass windows (those at Ronan Point have been found by test to break at 16lb per sq ft) the

inhabitants of Ronan Point should have to worry also about structural stability."

That does not appear in the report.

Last night Mr Webb's allegations were given to Sir Alfred over the telephone. He did not challenge any of them, but declined to comment further.

It is likely that tomorrow night's council meeting will decide that Ronan Point should be demolished, probably by dismantling it so that the extent of its defects can be studied.

The Government's National Building Agency, now disbanded, guaranteed for 60 years the life of tower blocks built with industrialized building systems.

In his preliminary report to Newham Council, Mr Webb claims that Ronan Point never complied with the British Standard Code of Practice CP3 Chapter 4, Part V, on means of escape in case of fire, and still does not.

He said yesterday that he feared "a bolted up Frankenstein's monster of construction" might collapse, because of official complacency over the faults which have been proved to exist in Ronan Point and similar blocks.

British Rail to start excursions with a 'Roast Beef Special'



British Rail is planning to bring back from next month the excursion trains made hugely popular by the old railway companies in the 1930s such as the nine-train excursion to Blackpool organized for Beas workers in 1896 by the Lancashire and Yorkshire

Railway (our Transport Editor writes). The excursion began in Burton-on-Trent and the photograph shows the trains waiting at Blackpool Central Station. The first is likely to be a Sunday "Roast Beef Special" from London to East Anglia

and back for up to 400 people at £15 to £20 each. The special train, including some refurbished Pullman coaches, will pull out of King's Cross at about 9.30am for Cambridge and Norwich, where it will stop for about three hours.

The Sunday lunch of roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, followed by apple pie and cream, will be served during the journey. Afternoon tea will also be served.

In December a Sunday lunch trip to York is planned, with carol-singing at York Minster

Other possible destinations are Ely, Lincoln, and Harrogate. Weekend trips to Scotland are planned for the new year. These will cost about £45 each, including dinner and hotel on Saturday night, and a tour of the west Highlands.

Urgent search for toxic waste sites

By Ronald Faux

The Government is urgently seeking other disposal centres for toxic chemical waste after the Re-Chem plant at Bonybridge, Shropshire, closes in 12 days.

The fear that there could be illegal dumping or burning was underlined recently when the Transport & General Workers' Union in Scotland warned its members working at local authority incinerators and refuse tips to be on their guard against any suspicious-looking waste.

It is feared that the lack of an incinerator able to generate the intense heat needed to dispose of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) - once used in electrical insulating material - will lead to a build-up of the material.

The Re-Chem plant is understood to have a stockpile of between 70 and 200 tonnes of liquid and solid PCB waste.

In Canada there are reported to be six million litres of PCB awaiting disposal, with no plant authorized to do the work.

It is unlikely that either of the other Re-Chem plants, at Pontypool, Gwent, and Southampton, will be allowed to accept the waste for incineration because of local pressures, and the Welsh plant is already operating at full capacity.

The only other centre in Britain with acceptable equipment is understood to be the Cleanaway plant at Ellesmere Port in Cheshire.

It incinerates liquid PCBs, which formed about 65,000 of the 1.2 million gallons of liquid waste which it handled last year. About 12 per cent of the PCB waste came from Re-Chem.

Cleanaway said yesterday that it would have spare capacity next year to handle more liquid PCBs, although no approach had been made to it. "As far as we are aware there is no other plant in Britain that can safely dispose of this material if Re-Chem is not to be allowed to do the job", it said.

Tories increase their poll lead

The Conservatives have increased their opinion poll lead over Labour by two points, to 8 per cent, over the past fortnight. A Market and Opinion Research International (MORI) survey published in yesterday's *Sunday Times* gave the Conservatives 43 per cent, compared with 35 per cent for Labour, 19 per cent for the Alliance, and 3 per cent for others.

The poll suggests that the Alliance and Labour have lost one percentage point each between the Liberal assembly in Bournemouth and the middle of last week, when Labour's Blackpool Conference had begun. The Tories and others each gained one point.

Eight face £10m drugs charge

A woman and seven men are due to appear in Rochford Magistrates' Court, Essex, on a smuggling charge today in connection with last week's £10m drugs raid on a yacht in the Crouch.

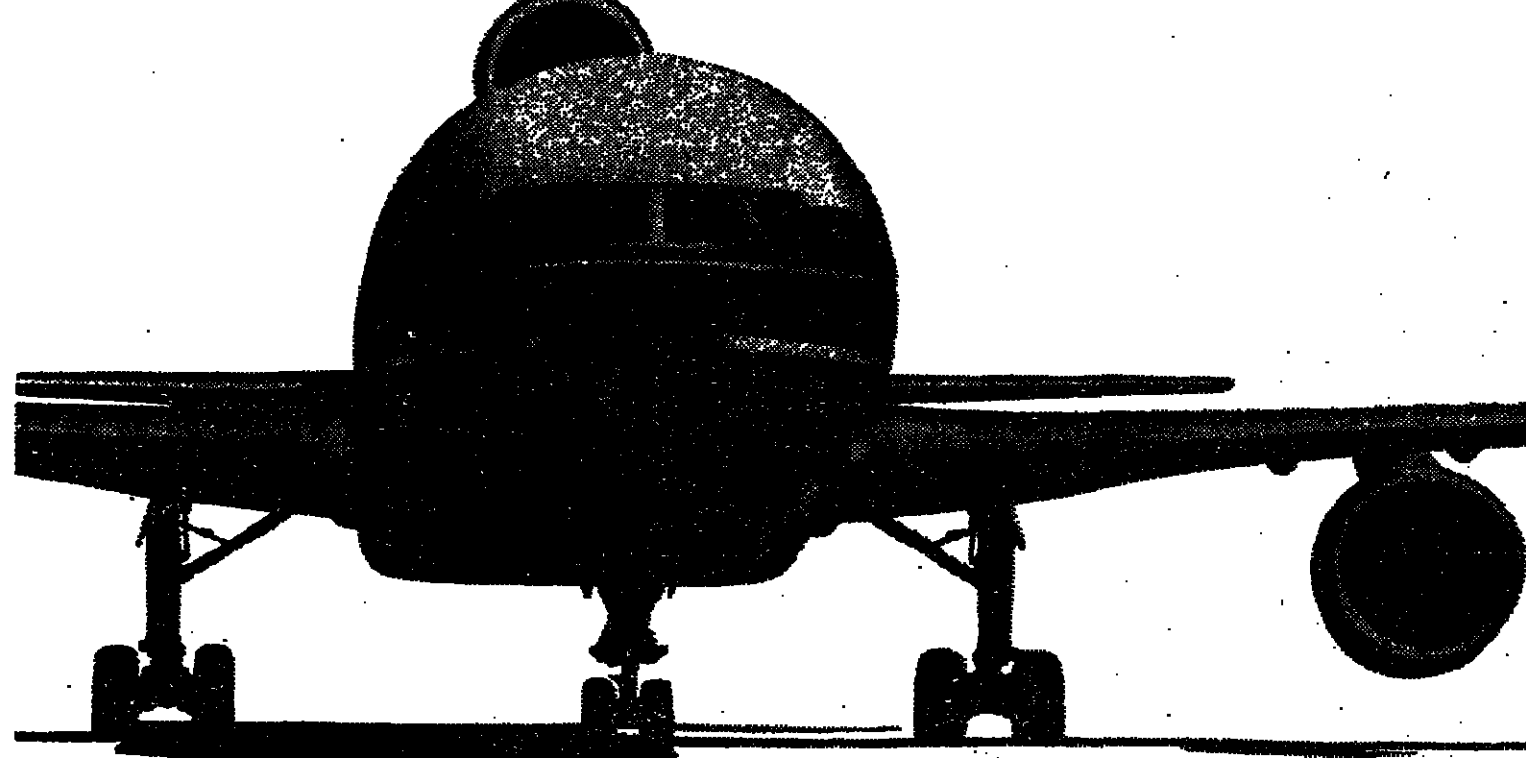
They are Sally Lynn Patricia Eshelman, aged 27, of Church Combe Estate, Uckfield, East Sussex; Nicholas John Jones, aged 40, of Green Lane, Boreham, Essex; and four others. The other three are the 28-year-old son of Mr Jones, the 30-year-old son of Mr Eshelman, and the 27-year-old son of Mr Jones.

They are charged with smuggling 100kg of cocaine, worth £10m, from South America, and 100kg of heroin, worth £10m, from the Far East.

The charges are part of a larger investigation into the smuggling of drugs into the country. The woman and seven men are charged with smuggling 100kg of cocaine, worth £10m, from South America, and 100kg of heroin, worth £10m, from the Far East.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia, 25c; Canada, 25c; Hong Kong, 25c; India, 25c; Japan, 25c; New Zealand, 25c; Singapore, 25c; South Africa, 25c; South America, 25c; Sweden, 25c; Switzerland, 25c; Taiwan, 25c; Thailand, 25c; USA, 25c; West Germany, 25c.

Chicken Kiev for lunch. Views over London, the Alps, the Mediterranean.



Must book.

Believe it or not, a Chicken Kiev flies out of London every day on board Saudia's flight to Jeddah.

But Chicken is just one of this month's delicacies.

We're also offering Fillet of Beef Mexicaine, Prawns au Gratin and Roast Leg of Lamb.

To find out about flight times (and what's for lunch), phone Saudia on 01-995 7777, or in Manchester on 061-833 9575.

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City orders teachers to disclose and register affiliation to Freemasons

Teachers in Leeds have been instructed by the Labour-led city council to disclose their membership of the Freemasons.

Mr Stuart Johnson, director of education, had written to 300 head teachers, informing them that school employees must state their affiliation to the clandestine society on a register to be kept at the town hall.

Leeds is the first council to have made such a move. It is insisting that its 12,000 employees, 8,000 of whom work in education, 6,500 of them in schools, declare membership of the masons.

Other authorities have recently adopted measures forcing masons to hold council positions to declare their affiliation. Those have been Labour and Liberal initiatives.

Controversy about the movement has mounted since the publication of Stephen Knight's book, *The Brotherhood*. It claims that Freemasons exert behind-the-scenes influence in the law, local government, and the police, and that they favour each other for appointments, promotions, and the awarding of contracts.

In the wake of the book, the Metropolitan Police has warned officers that membership of the masons may be incompatible with police duties.

Leeds council has passed a resolution stating that "in the interests of free and open government any member of the Freemasons is obliged to declare an interest". It has also instructed chief officers to establish an employees' register of interest.

Mr Geoff Driver, chairman of the education committee, said that because Freemasons appeared to prefer one another for promotions, their philosophy was at odds with the council's equal opportunities policy.

"We believe that at a time of job shortages every post that is available must be open to everybody. If the person interviewed or being interviewed is a Freemason that may be material to whether fair choices are being made," he said.

Mr Driver said that the issue was particularly crucial in education because so many of the council's employees work in schools. But other council employees, in housing, public

works, environmental health, social services, the industry department and leisure services, are also being requested to fill in the register.

Mr David Selby, a Liberal councillor, said: "Although I support the resolution and believe council members and officers should declare if they are Freemasons, I cannot see that it is relevant whether a school caretaker is a Freemason or not."

The resolution was approved by 68 Labour and Liberal members, with 28 Conservatives against it.

Last night, a spokesman for the Freemasons denied that members of the fraternity favoured one another for appointments or promotions. "The whole thing is a lot of rubbish," he said.

"A mason is told he should obey the law of the land and that he should not under any circumstances use his membership to his own advantage, or to the advantage of a fellow mason. That is a rule and anybody who breaks it is in trouble."



The generation of speed: The daughter and grand daughter of former world speed record holders, Donald and Sir Malcolm Campbell, yesterday displayed the boat she hopes will make her the fastest woman on water and clutch two mascot teddy bears, one of which was in her father's boat when he crashed.

Hyde Park, Miss Gina Campbell, aged 34, said: "I am a Campbell. I want to follow in the footsteps of my father and grandfather before me. As far as I am concerned the women's world water speed record is already broken."

Her record attempt will take place in Agfa Bluebird II on Windermere some time next week, the actual day depending on the weather. Her grandfather, Sir Malcolm, and his Bluebird (above, left) set a world record in 1937. Her father, Donald (above, right), broke it again in 1955. He was killed in 1967 making another attempt.

Miss Campbell hopes to achieve a speed of 130mph. An existing record stands at 116mph.

Cancer test could save thousands of women

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

The lives of more than 1,000 women a year could be saved by the introduction of a proper screening programme for cancer of the cervix, according to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

Britain's existing screening programme widely acknowledged to have failed badly with more than 2,000 deaths a year and the number of cases rising.

The national scheme for recalling women for regular smear tests has been scrapped, but the computerization of family practitioner committee's lists over the next decade offers the opportunity of setting up a proper system, the fund's committee on cervical screening says.

The present policy that women in the age-range at risk should be screened every five years is fine, the committee says. The problem is that most of the three million tests each year are carried out on women who are pregnant or seeking contraception and are below 35, while women aged 40 and over, who are most at risk, account for few tests.

In addition, the five-year gap means women forget to go for further smears.

Computerization of the family practitioner committee's lists would allow identification of women in the right age groups and automatically call-up, offering them a choice of appointments for a test.

Dr Jack Cuzick, secretary of the fund's working party, said: "I think if every sexually active woman between 35 and 65 were screened every five years, the chance of dying of cervical cancer would be cut by at least half."

In 1982, a total of 2,121 women died of cervical cancer, 90 per cent of them aged over 40. But well organized screening programmes in countries such as Iceland, Finland, and Sweden have halved the number that develop cancer.

With the exception of stopping the population smoking, screening for cervical cancer "offers the only major proved public health measure for significantly reducing the burden of cancer today", the committee says.

Computerizing each family practitioner committee is likely to cost about £100,000 in hardware, £60,000 to £70,000 in start-up costs, and £15,000 to £17,000 a year to run, it is estimated.

Appeal for firework restrictions

The National Campaign for Firework Reform is calling for more stringent laws to reduce the number of injuries to children on Guy Fawkes night.

It accuses the Government of being uninterested in the problems and the fireworks industry of being too profit-motivated, and blames the increase in serious injuries from 100 in 1982 to 208 last year on the ease with which children can buy fireworks.

The pressure group maintains that laws should be as strict as those of other European countries, where firework accidents have been greatly reduced, or even eradicated.

It wants the Explosives (Age of Purchase) Act, 1976, to be updated to raise the minimum age for buying fireworks from 16 to 18. It also wants the licence fee for shopkeepers selling fireworks to be increased from £5.

The campaign group particularly wants the "banger" to be phased out.

Police hunt attacker of IBM man

By Michael Hornsall

Detectives hunting the attacker of an IBM executive, who was left critically injured in the grounds of his home in Hayling Island, Hampshire, on Friday night, were trying yesterday to trace his movements in the two hours before the assault.

Mr Michael Robertson, aged 41, who suffered serious head injuries, was in the intensive care unit at Southampton General Hospital after being found by his Greek wife, Yvoni.

Police officers, led by Det Chief Supt John Wright, head of Hampshire CID, believe that Mr Robertson, father of two and head of the property management services section of IBM, may have been attacked elsewhere.

They believe he may have visited public houses on the seafront of Hayling Island after telling his wife that he was going out to collect a takeaway meal. An appeal has been made for witnesses to make contact with an incident room set up at the local police station.

BBC rejects idea of taking adverts

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Mr Alasdair Milne, the director-general of the BBC, yesterday rejected the concept that the corporation should be partly funded by advertising, and said that a change in the licence fee system could easily destroy Britain's delicately balanced broadcasting system.

The BBC is about to start its negotiations with the government about the size of the next licence fee, and to coincide with that there has been growing pressure from some quarters for the introduction of a form of commercialism.

Mr Milne will respond to the licence fee critics in this week's issue of the trade magazine *Marking Week*. He will specifically reply to the suggestion by the advertising agency D'Arcy MacManus Masius, made in the same publication

two weeks ago, that the licence fee could be pegged at today's £46 if the BBC carried a small amount of advertising.

Mr Milne said yesterday that the BBC had looked at the question of carrying advertisements. He added that if the corporation competed for advertising with independent television, the provincial press would probably be delivered a fatal blow.

He said that the agency's suggestion of a partial introduction of advertising was ingenious but founded for fundamental reasons.

"When it comes to advertising and programme standards, the evidence of one's own eyes shows, in every commercial system in the world, what competing for the same source of funding leads to."

Yard anxious over Intoximeter ruling

By a Staff Reporter

The controversial device for testing motorists who are suspected of driving while above the alcohol limit, the Intoximeter 3000 breath test machine, faces its most crucial test with a court ruling tomorrow.

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, will be asked to rule in the divisional court of the Queen's Bench Division on an appeal case brought by Scotland Yard which, if lost, could result in appeals by 83,000 drivers convicted on the machine's evidence.

Lord Lane has to decide whether the former Home Secretary, now Lord Whitelaw, had the power to introduce the Intoximeter as a device that could be used in evidence during a drink-driving prosecution.

The accuracy of the Intoximeter has been questioned, and the Home Office has ruled that all drivers who are found by the Intoximeter to be over the limit may elect to take a blood or urine test.

That option was due to end this month, but it has been extended until the new year. During that time it will be monitored by the Forensic Science Service.

Tomorrow's appeal case concerns the legality of the machine's introduction, not the device's accuracy. It stems from the dismissal by a stipendiary magistrate at Wells Street Court, London, of the case against Miss Maureen Harrigan, aged 20, who was charged with failing to provide a breath specimen.

Rossiter's death points to risk of exercise

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Can an obsession with fitness kill you? The question comes up again with the death of Mr Leonard Rossiter, aged 57, who collapsed at the Lyric Theatre in London on Friday.

He is not the first person this year to die suddenly despite setting great store on regular exercise and attention to health care.

The recent death of the author Mr Jim Ffix, who popularized jogging, while out exercising has led doctors to emphasize that there are risks associated with vigorous activity.

An answer to the question whether exercise is a provocation of or a protection against heart attacks is contained in the latest issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

It is the first study which appears to resolve the apparent contradiction about whether exercise can prevent and cause coronary attacks.

The research involved studying the medical records and interviewing the widows of victims of attacks. The patients had their coronaries either during exercise or in the intervening period between habitual or occasional bouts of intensive effort.

The activities regarded as highly energetic include jogging, swimming, playing singles tennis, squash, and chopping wood.

The conclusion by the group working with Dr David Sicrovick was from an American inquiry covering a 14-month period for the population of Seattle. Their results show:

- The risk of an attack during intense exercise increases by a factor of five.
- The risk of an attack increases by 56 times for people who indulge in occasional energetic bouts.
- But among habitually vigorous men, the overall risks of a heart attack was only 40 per cent that of sedentary men.

Rossiter replacement

Dinsdale Landon will take over Leonard Rossiter's part in *Loat* at the Lyric Theatre, London, later this month. John Channell-Mills, Mr Rossiter's understudy, who stepped in when he died from a heart attack on Friday night will continue to play the role of Insp Truscott until October 18, the theatre announced last night.

Obituary, page 15

New cross-Channel route to Normandy

The first new cross-channel ferry route for some years will open between Portsmouth and Caen, on the north Normandy coast, in 18 months' time, it was announced yesterday.

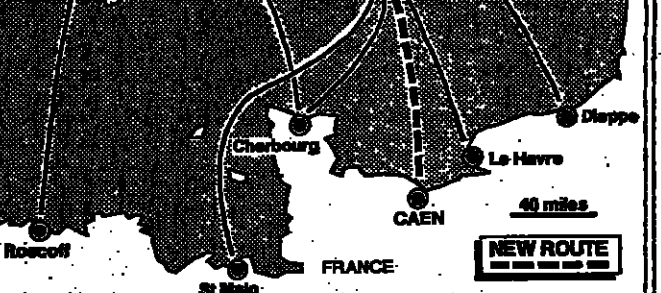
It will be operated by France's Brittany Ferries, which already runs between Portsmouth and St Malo, and Plymouth and Roscoff.

It plans to operate six sailings a day on a route, running roughly parallel to the present Portsmouth-Le Havre route of P & O and Townsend Thoresen, that will give good access to Paris and the South of France to holidaymakers from West London, the Midlands, and the

West Country. The crossing is expected to take five to six hours.

Brittany Ferries was started by farmers' co-operatives in Brittany to get their cauliflowers, artichokes, onions, and garlic to the British market, but quickly developed successful passenger services in the Western Channel during the 1970s.

Mr Ian Carruthers, UK director of the company, said yesterday that the new route, which had the backing of France's Minister of the Sea, would open up the full potential of Normandy to the British holidaymaker, as well as Paris and places farther south.



New and old ferry crossings between England and France.

Melbury, son of Lymeswold

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

A new soft cheese, Melbury, will be launched today by Dairy Crest, the manufacturing subsidiary of the Milk Marketing Board.

Neither Melbury nor the company's Clover Spread, which went on sale last week, have attracted the publicity which surrounded the launch of the equally fictitiously named Lymeswold cheese two years ago.

That is partly because Melbury and Clover have been extensively test-marketed, in the South of England and the Midlands respectively, and partly because Lymeswold's debut happened to coincide with a day when little else was happening.

The new brands are part of a campaign to reverse the continuing decline in the consumption of dairy produce.

This year's abrupt imposition of milk quotas by the European Commission in an attempt to curb over-production has so far failed to diminish the shadows of the mountains of butter, cheese, and skimmed milk powders in Europe and the United States.

Sunday trading campaign intensifies

The issue of whether shops should be allowed to open on Sundays has resurfaced after it was disclosed last week that a Home Office committee of inquiry will soon recommend that the Sunday trading rules should be abolished.

An opinion poll commissioned by the National Consumer Council also showed that 69 per cent of people wanted shops to be allowed to open on Sunday.

But there is considerable confusion among the public about which shops are already allowed to trade, and which are not.

The law regulates the types of goods which may be sold, not the type of shops which may open. Maurice Healy, the National Consumer Council's assistant director, says: "Broadly speaking, on Sundays you can sell newspapers, magazines, and fresh food. Anything else is not legal. But over the years people have got away with selling all sorts of things."

The legislation dates back to 1893. Schedule 3 of the Shops Act, 1950 sets out the purpose for which shops may open on a Sunday. They are for the sale of food and drinks for immediate

The Trustee Savings Bank said "Yes" to hundreds of customers yesterday when it became the first bank in Britain to open for business on a Sunday. The bank's branch at new Cameron Toll shopping centre in Edinburgh is providing a full service, including the opportunity to "discuss loans

important exceptions to the law. It does not cover Scotland, where there are no restrictions on Sunday opening, except for hairdressers.

It prohibits the sale of fish and chips, but not other takeaway foods. That is because in 1950 there were not other common kinds of takeaway food.

Jewish traders may open on a Sunday until 2 pm provided they close on Saturday, their day of rest. It is a common misunderstanding that Muslim shopkeepers, whose day of rest is Friday, are specifically exempted by the legislation. They are not.

Shops in holiday resorts are allowed to sell a wider range of goods, but are still seriously restricted. "You can go into a shop and buy a souvenir T-shirt saying 'A present from Margate' but not one with bugs bunny on it," Mr Healy says. The shop must be in an area classified as a resort, and can open for no more than 18 Sundays a year.

Neither the National Consumer Council nor the Home Office can put a figure on the number of shops breaking the law, nor how many prosecutions there have been. But the main offenders are do-it-

yourself and furniture shops and small grocers.

Sir Terence Conran, who owns Habitat, says three of his shops in England have been opening on Sundays for the past two or three years. They are at Canterbury, Taplow in Buckinghamshire and Wallingford in Oxfordshire. Last year the King's Road, London, branch opened for three Sundays before Christmas.

"We had a prosecution in Wallingford and a small fine of about £50," Sir Terence says. "The local authority expressed its regrets. It said it had been forced to prosecute us, although it did not want to, because it had had complaints."

Sir Terence is a member of a pressure group called Open Shop, which also includes W.H. Smith, Asda Supermarkets, and Woolworth (which opens one of its London branches on Sundays). Sir Terence says: "I very much hope that the Home Office inquiry is going to recommend a total liberalization. You can do literally anything on Sunday except open shops."

"If the report is positive, those who want to open will open, before the law is repealed," he predicts.

CHANGES TO TELEPHONE CHARGES

British Telecommunications plc announces the following changes to telephone charges. These are the first changes for main telephone services (other than international calls) since November 1983. Overall, the changes on exchange line rentals and on local and national (formerly known as trunk) calls are within the limit set by the BT Licence.

- FROM NOVEMBER 1st 1984.**
 - Exchange line and standard telephone rental.**
 - Residential.**
 - Exclusive rental increased by £1.00 to £15.15 per quarter.
 - Shared rental increased by 95p to £14.10 per quarter.
 - Rebate on rental for low use residential lines increased from 3.0p to 3.2p per unused unit below 120 call units per quarter.
 - Business.**
 - Exclusive rental increased by £1.50 to £23.50 per quarter.
 - Shared rental increased by £1.45 to £22.45 per quarter.

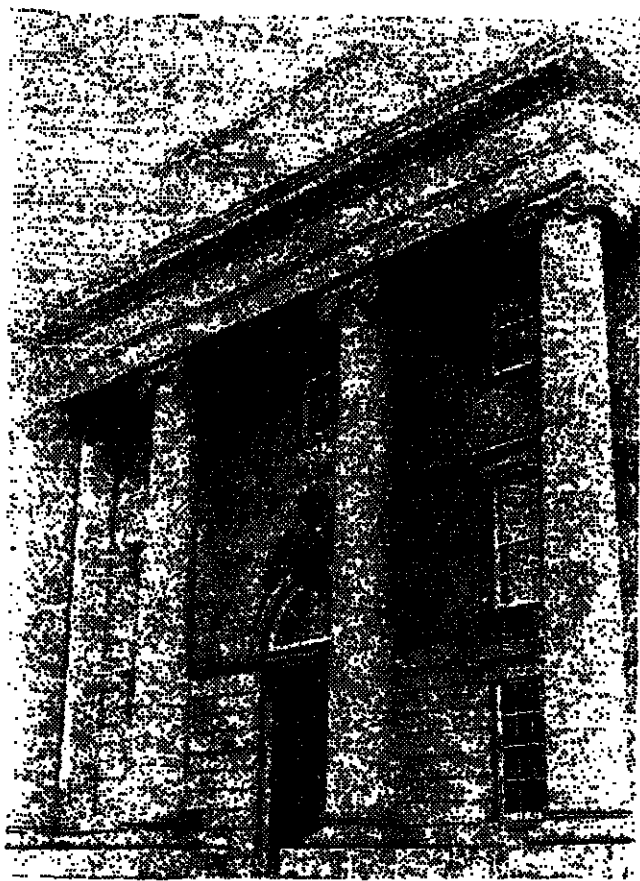
- FROM NOVEMBER 5th 1984.**
 - Charges for calls from ordinary lines.**
 - Call unit charge increased by 0.3p to 4.7p.
 - 20-25% more time for peak and standard rate national (formerly trunk) calls over 56 kms will make these calls cheaper on average.
 - Charges for calls from payphones.**
 - The minimum charge for all calls from payphones will be increased to 10p, but more time will be allowed for this minimum charge on most national (formerly trunk) and international calls.

- Other items.**
 - Changes are being made to charges for national (formerly trunk) and local operator controlled calls, and to charges for some telephone instruments, extensions, and apparatus.

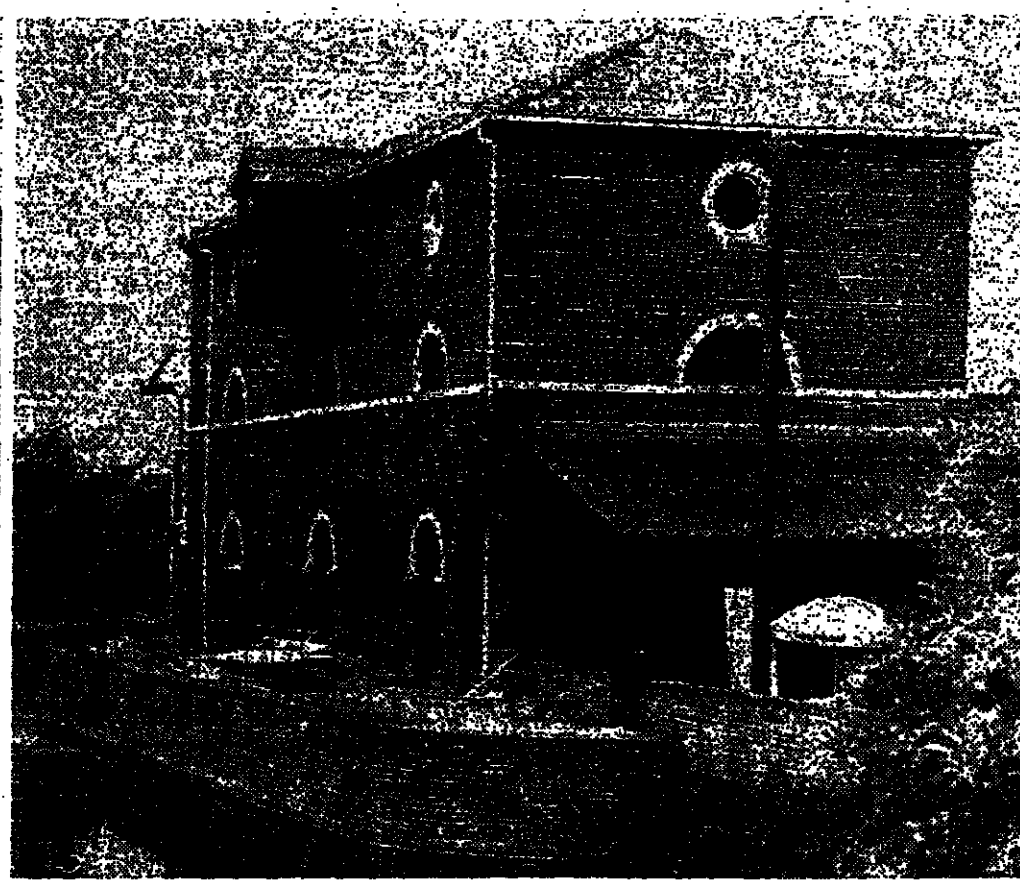
- VAT.**
 - Quoted charges, except those for payphones, are exclusive of VAT.
- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.**
 - Details of all changes will be notified to customers with their quarterly bill in November, December or January. For further information about these changes please dial 100 during normal office hours and ask for Freefone 2500, or for Freefone BTI for enquiries about international services.

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Prizewinners: Curzon Street station community project, Birmingham, and Quay Theatre warehouse conversion, Sudbury



Conservation awards for station and warehouse

By Charles Knevit, Architecture Correspondent

Birmingham's first passenger railway station and a quayside warehouse at Sudbury, Suffolk, have won the main national awards in the 1984 Conservation Scheme, sponsored by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and *The Times*.

The awards, for outstanding conservation of an industrial, commercial, or professional category, went to Wallis's Mill, Brigstock, Northamptonshire, and the Britannia Hotel, Manchester. In the recreational or educational category they went to Eling Tide Mill, Totton, near Southampton, and the Mill at Sonning, near Reading, Berkshire.

Apart from the six main awards and 13 commendations, a special award was given to Winstead

Works near Hull, a successful small business enterprise.

Mr George Townsend, president of the institutions, and Mr Charles Douglas-Horne, editor of *The Times*, said that the winners showed the flexibility of old industrial buildings, which should provide a spur to a more imaginative approach. The quayside buildings had been converted to a high quality but with an eye on cost and local participation.

The added that the general standard of entries had been

disappointing, perhaps because of the demolition of too many industrial buildings from earlier epochs.

Curzon Street station, Birmingham, now houses a flourishing community of self-help projects. Designed by Philip Hardwick, who also designed the Doric arch at Easton station, demolished amid controversy, it was built in 1838 as the original terminus of the London to Birmingham railway.

Task Undertakings, which converted the building, was praised for

the sensitive restoration, which received grants from the Manpower Services Commission and The Prince's Trust. The judges said that it was a monument to Birmingham, the railway age, Victorian self-confidence, and the architecture of the day.

The Quay Theatre, Sudbury, is a successful small theatre and arts enterprise. An eighteenth-century granary and warehouse was converted by the Quay Theatre Development Trust.

The judges said that it was "a good building, admirably converted and restored and a heart-warming example of community effort and participation. We have rarely seen a case of so much money being raised by so few, to such a good effect." There were 75 entries.

Consumer council 'No' to more parent governors

By Colin Hughes

Two in three parents are unaware that they are represented by parent-governors at their children's schools, according to a survey by the Welsh Consumer Council to be published later this year.

The council is releasing some of its findings today to underline its submission to the Government that there should be "major changes in the way schools are governed". It rejects, however, the Government's proposals to give parents a majority of places on school bodies.

Four hundred parents with children at seven secondary schools were interviewed. One in four did not know that their school had a governing body at all. In one school, the proportion knowing of the body was only six per cent.

Although all the schools had parent-governors, 80 per cent of parents from two of the schools did not know they were represented. At another school, 95 per cent of the parents could not name their parent-governor, and in all seven schools only one in five parents were able to identify any of their representatives.

"More information and publicity aimed at increasing parents' awareness is crucial if they are to play an effective part in electing parent governors", Mrs Shelagh Salter, the council's chairman, said. The Government's plan to create a majority of parent-governors would be useless in giving

parents are better informed."

Parents in professional and managerial jobs were more than twice as likely to know about parent-governors, suggesting that elections should be designed to ensure that a cross-section of backgrounds was represented, she added. In the meantime, parents, teachers, local authorities and local community should have an equal say.

The survey also showed that, even where parent-governors were elected by parents, more than half the parents did not know of their existence. The idea that involving parents in elections would foster wider interest in and knowledge of school government is put in doubt by the council's findings.

Licences to shoot geese may end

From David Black

The Government is to consider whether licences to shoot waterfowl should be issued again this year to farmers on the island of Islay, after representations from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

About 15,000 of the geese, which are protected under the Wild Life and Countryside Act, 1981, and various Common Market directives migrate every October from Greenland to winter on Islay.

However, the birds cause extensive damage to sheep and cattle winter grazing, and during the past two years, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Scotland, has issued between 50 and 60 licences which resulted in the shooting of almost 2,000 geese.

Press chief fights tax on papers

The Government was warned yesterday that the imposition of value-added tax on newspapers would reduce the free flow of information. The warning came from Mr Vernon Addison, editorial director of the *Evening News* and *Star*, Carlisle, and the weekly *Cumberland News*.

Speaking at his inauguration as president of the Guild of British Newspaper Editors, at the guild's annual meeting in Croydon, south London, he said any such move would put the clock back almost 150 years.

"It is ironic that the Newspaper Society, the proprietors' organization, was formed in 1836 to rid the country of tax on newspapers. Now we are facing it again", Mr Addison said. "Tax on news is a tax on knowledge."

Pensioners get £2 travel

British Rail has announced that from November 1 to 29, holders of senior citizens' railcards will be able to make a single journey anywhere in the country for £2. The offer will be available from Monday to Thursday after 9.30 am and all day on Saturday.

The pensioners will also be able to buy day return tickets, also for £2, in London and the South-East, Scotland, Wales and Cornwall and most of Devon.

Ecology stays

A proposal by the Ecology Party to change its name to the Green Party was rejected at its conference in Southport, Merseyside, at the weekend.

Historic house

The three-bedroom terrace house in Vale View, Tredgar, Gwent, where the Labour leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, was born in 1942 is for sale at £16,500.

Asbestos critics demand inquiry on builders' deaths

By Tony Samstag

A pressure group today is to demand an inquiry by Glasgow District Council into early deaths among building workers who worked on the Red Road flats development in the 1960s. Scientists at Dundee University reported in 1967 that acceptable levels of asbestos at the site had been "grossly exceeded".

Clydeside Action on Asbestos, noting that a fatal accident inquiry last month confirmed that Mr Ron Hill, a joiner who had worked on the site, had died from asbestosis and mesothelioma, say it is acting on behalf of more than 40 of the

Confusion over benefit

Government plans to cut public sector manpower by the introduction of housing benefit appear to have failed, according to a report by SHAC, the London Housing Act Centre.

The overwhelming majority of local authorities are still facing serious difficulties with

the scheme, SHAC said yesterday, as it published the results of a survey of more than 50 local authorities.

All but one were still facing difficulty running the scheme more than a year after its introduction, and all but three wanted changes made

'Corrupt' councils face inquiry

A public inquiry into malpractices by local authorities, with possible legislation to ensure future integrity, has been demanded by the Conservative-dominated Centre for Policy Studies.

The demand comes in a study, entitled *The new corruption* on reported abuses by leading Labour councils, timed to coincide with the start of the Conservative Party Conference, which is due to debate the subject this week. The independently-financed centre was founded by Mrs Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph in 1973.

It accuses the councils of manipulating procedures to undermine the opposition, causing the politicization of local government officers and a light-hearted attitude to councillors who are also local government employees.

It charges them with spending ratepayers' money to support trade unions and conduct political propaganda on subjects such as defence, which are outside their competence.

The author, Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, a doctor and

barrier, said that he and his seven-man team had investigated 24 local councils of which all were Labour-run except Brent, which is now Conservative.

He said that the authorities were flouting not the law but long-standing conventions which had been hitherto observed by all parties. Laws that do exist "are being evaded, against the spirit of legislation enacted by Parliament". There were serious implications for democracy in Britain. It was now necessary that these conventions be enshrined in law, he told a press conference.

Dr Goodson-Wickes stressed that there were "some Labour councils which behave perfectly properly", and the majority of the Labour Party, like the Conservatives, SDP and Liberals condemned the abuses.

In Brent, before it became Conservative, standing orders were changed in such a way that the opposition was prevented from submitting any motions for debates on committee reports. The last Labour-led council meeting was disrupted

and adjourned, thus postponing the passage of power to the Conservatives for several days.

In Islington, the only opposition councillor was denied information on expenditure by the leader who said "it has become perfectly obvious that you are determined to pass any information you obtain straight on to your party and the press. You are simply using it to fuel the campaign of misinformation and distortion."

Camden Council recently allowed its rat-catcher a third year of paid full-time leave to carry out his duties as a Greater London Councillor. Also in Camden, a councillor was both general manager of a housing association and a member of a housing cooperative which benefited from the council's decision to waive rates on short-life property.

Southwark council gave all its staff one hour off with pay to attend a miners' rally on July 4. It used ratepayers' money to bring miners' families from Kent to Southwark for a dance.

Thirty injured in clashes as Basques defy Madrid ban on protest

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

At least 30 people were injured during clashes in the centre of Bilbao on Saturday night between Basque nationalists and Spanish police. A dozen people were arrested.

The disturbances, which lasted for more than four hours, showed that feelings still run high among sympathizers of ETA, the Basque separatist organization, 10 days after France handed over three of its suspected members to stand trial in Madrid in connexion with the killing of nine police in the region several years ago.

The three ETA men, being held in Madrid's prison hospital, have made their first statements to an investigating magistrate and denied responsibility for the killings.

Saturday's violence started after several hundred demonstrators sought to defy a Madrid ban on a public protest in the Basque region's chief city against the extraditions.

The crowd threw bottles and stones at the police, who cleared main thoroughfares by making repeated baton charges and firing smoke grenades and rubber bullets. The demonstrators retreated down side streets, shouting slogans like "Extradition - no, no, no, no" or insults at the Gonzalez government and *Vidas* for ETA.

Police were among those injured, but witnesses also reported seeing a pregnant woman coming out of a chemist's shop and an old woman trying to shelter in a doorway, being hit indiscriminately by police.

Señor Txomin Ziluaga, a Bilbao councillor and member of the executive of the People's Unity Coalition, which called the demonstration, was also among those attacked. He lost consciousness, and hospital doctors said he had a head wound.

Madrid banned the demonstration on the ground that the People's Unity Coalition is not included among Spain's registered political parties. This is because the Interior Ministry judges it adopts an "ambiguous" attitude to the Spanish constitution, especially over the status of the Basque country.

The central Government is fighting a protracted battle in the courts to get the party banned and last week returned to the attack with a new appeal after a Madrid court had declined to find in favour of the Government.

Driving the People's Unity Coalition underground - it got about 15 per cent of the vote in a series of Basque elections - has been widely criticized even

by its opponents as a counter-productive move and was not Socialist policy in the past.

The organizers of the Bilbao protest said the ban was the first time Madrid had given such reasons for forbidding one of their demonstrations.

The severity of the police reaction hardly came as a surprise after Señor José Barrio-nuevo, the Interior Minister, said in Parliament on Friday that "maximum firmness" would be used by the Government in its fight against terrorism.

But his critics replied that he was confusing ETA and the political forces which sympathize with the organization.

Señor Barrio-nuevo went on to attack Señor Carlos Garañeta, the Basque Chief Minister, who has always argued that police measures must be accompanied by political steps to solve the Basque problem. Señor Barrio-nuevo said the greatest number of ETA killings had occurred since the Chief Minister took office.

This attack was followed up by the leader of the Socialist Party in the Basque region, who yesterday said it would be "a positive thing" for the region if the Chief Minister resigned.

Firing squad threat to A-test men

From Tony Duboulin Melbourne

The Royal Commission into British nuclear tests in Australia moves to Brisbane today after a week in Sydney which ended up being a procession of witnesses accusing Britain of negligence and a cover-up.

The highlight of last week's hearing was the allegation on Wednesday by a former Army lance-corporal who told the inquiry that 200 British and Australian servicemen were threatened with court-martial and the possibility of a firing squad if they recounted an incident in which an Aboriginal family, wandered into the Maroon nuclear bomb testing site at Maralinga in the outback of South Australia.

Mr John Hutton told the commission that on one morning in May, 1966, while he was putting on protective clothing in a caravan before going out into a "hot" area around the Maroon site to help scientists, he saw an Aboriginal man, aged about 20, through the window of the caravan standing in the contaminated area. This was about seven months after a nuclear bomb had been tested there.

Mr Hutton said the Aboriginal man, his wife and two naked children had camped in the Maroon bomb crater for a couple of days.

Mr Hutton's allegations came after the Maralinga and Monte Bello Atomic Ex-Servicemen's Association, in a preliminary submission to the commission on Tuesday, said that gross negligence by those conducting the Maralinga, Monte Bello and Emu tests had resulted in the deaths and serious illness of many of the participants.

The association said that personnel who watched the tests at Emu and Maralinga were as close as one and a half miles away from the actual point of the explosion but none wore protective clothing nor were monitored for any resulting contamination.

The submission was reinforced on Thursday when the commission was shown films which showed servicemen working in areas contaminated with radiation or on contaminated equipment without wearing full protective clothing.

European notebook

Greens poison the EEC atmosphere

How sing you one song. Greens grow, the bushes go. Pollution is my first song.

The ever-growing movement in West Germany has succeeded not only in gaining votes but in poisoning the delicate political atmosphere of the Common Market. An old folk song could well be adapted for their use when pollution, in the form of acid rain and car exhaust fumes, is killing the forests of Europe and is politically worrying in West Germany.

According to European Commission figures, some 30 per cent of West German forests are dying. According to recent elections in North Rhine-Westphalia, 9.2 per cent of its population are now voting Green.

How sing you two songs. Lead in petrol is my second song. Lead in petrol does poison the atmosphere and can be controlled by legislation.

Unlike acid rain, which crosses frontiers without the need of passports or customs duties, the West German Government has therefore decided to go it alone in introducing legislation to force the use of lead-free petrol, which it hopes will save the forests from dying and the votes from turning Green.

The legislation, which has still to be voted, would mean that all new cars registered in West Germany after January 1, 1989 would have to run only on lead-free petrol. The restriction would come in a year earlier for cars of more than two litres in capacity.

As an incentive, tax on lead-free petrol would be cut from July next year and there would be a road-tax exemption for up to 10 years (or catalyser).

How sing you three songs. Catalyser is my third song. The catalyser is an expensive device, fitted to the exhaust of a car, and well tested in the United States. It removes the impurities from the exhaust gases of cars running on lead-free petrol. Under the proposed West German legislation all cars would either have to have them or pay the consequences in an expensive way.

Catalysers, however, only

work on well-tuned engines. Because they are under the car they rust, and because they are delicate they tend to go wrong if the car runs at high speed (motorways without speed limits are a political necessity in West Germany). Catalysers also add up to 10 per cent to the price of a car.

How sing you four songs. Lead-burn is my fourth song.

Lead-burn engines are still being developed, and should be ready in about a decade. They represent a new lead-free technology and essentially eat up all the noxious gases produced by an engine.

They will be much cheaper to run and maintain than catalysers.

How sing you five songs. Common Market is my fifth (and last) song. The European Commission wants the time for the lead-burn solution. It has put forward a timetable for progressively lowering the permitted amount of lead in petrol from 1989 through to the end of 1995.

In putting forward this timetable the Commission has said that member states can move faster to bring in lower levels on condition that they do not restrict the sale or use of leaded-petrol vehicles.

This condition is imposed because to do otherwise would break Community rules which make it illegal to impose national standards unilaterally. The West German proposals would clearly do this.

The Commission and all member states - none more so than Britain - want a lead-free Europe. But they also say they believe in a Common Market where goods can travel across frontiers with no more difficulty than pollution: if West Germany is allowed to go alone it will set an awkward precedent for a non-Common Market.

The battle will be joined in Luxembourg tomorrow, when the question is due to be raised during an "internal" market council, which aims at tearing down non-tariff frontiers. The plan is to go on sniping at the subsequent industrial and environment councils, until it withers and dies like a leaden tree.

Ian Murray

Thailand and Laos step up border battle

From Neil Kelly Bangkok

There were more civilian and military casualties as clashes continued between Laotian and Thai forces at their common border according to the Thai Army yesterday.

One woman was killed and three other civilians injured by Laotian artillery firing into three disputed villages. The dispute will be discussed later today by the United Nations Security Council in New York.

Casualties were also reported when Laotian troops intruded briefly into Thailand twice in the past 48 hours.

Thailand blames Vietnam, which supports Laos, for escalating the local dispute into an international problem. Thailand believes UN investment will damage its chance of winning a non-permanent seat on the Security Council.

The three villages have a total population of 1,200 and occupy 13 square miles. Both countries claim them and point to maps to support their cases.

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Actress honoured: Miss Sophia Loren greeting the Most Rev John O'Connor, Archbishop of New York, after a Columbus Day dinner at the Waldorf Astoria on Saturday. Miss Loren leads the Columbus Day Parade through New York today.

Remaining Durban three ready for long stay if court appeal fails today

From Michael Harnsby, Johannesburg

The three South African dissidents sheltering in the British Consulate in Durban could have the detention orders which security police are waiting to serve on them quashed by the Supreme Court today.

Six men, a black and five Indians, all leading anti-apartheid campaigners, took refuge in the consulate on September 13, but three of them left unexpectedly of their own accord on Saturday morning. It appears, to test the reaction of the police. They were promptly arrested.

The Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court heard an appeal by the six on September 21 against the validity of detention orders which the Minister of Law and Order Mr Louis Le Grange had issued against them. Judgment is due this morning.

If the verdict is in their favour, the three remaining fugitives could well decide to come out and challenge the authorities to arrest them. If it goes against them, which seems more likely, there is no predicting what their response will be.

Asked by *The Times* what the plans of the three were, Mr Zac Yacoob, the Durban advocate who is their chief spokesman outside the consulate, said: "They will stay there indefinitely, subject to daily developments."

British sources last night declined to say whether an unfavourable court verdict would shift the delicate balance of legal and diplomatic arguments that Britain has used to justify its refusal to hand the fugitives over to the police.

Saturday's surprise development occurred at about 11.30am. Using a plan worked out with the three remaining fugitives the previous night, Mr George Sewpersad and Mr

NIC member, when a police warrant officer in plain clothes, who had been watching the building, realized what was happening and arrested them.

He did not have any police identification on him, nor any arrest warrants. But he held the three men until a more senior officer arrived and served detention orders on them under Section 28 of the Internal Security Act.

Mr Ramgobin shouted a few comments to reporters through the bars of the van as he and the others were driven away. He said they had gone to the consulate to draw attention to the "iniquity of the detention-without-trial laws". A statement issued later on their behalf criticized the "abysmal failure" of Britain to take the matter up with Pretoria.

It seems the three had hoped to get away unnoticed and rejoin their families and the appear dramatically at a protest rally last night to denounce the security laws.

Those still in the consulate are Mr Archie Gumede, one of three national presidents of the United Democratic Front, which campaigned strongly against the new tri-racial Parliament, and Mr Paul David and Mr Billy Nair, members of the NIC executive.

Troops help to quell rioting

Johannesburg (Reuters) - Police fired rubber bullets at black youths who attacked a patrol in Soweto yesterday and a spokesman said troops were on duty in another township. It was the first public admission during the recent unrest in South Africa of troops being used to quell rioting.

Moorogish Naidoo, president and vice-president respectively of the Natal Indian Congress, and Mr Mewa Ramgobin, another NIC official, slipped out of the bank building in which the consulate is housed.

Two of them had got into a getaway car driven by Professor Jerry Coovadia, another senior

Congress haggles over pork barrel

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

As the ninety-eighth congress stumbles towards adjournment, the scene inside the Capitol building has taken on the appearance of a Middle East bazaar, with legislators wheeling and dealing in an attempt to get their pet projects attached to an omnibus spending Bill which is needed to keep the Government in funds for fiscal 1985.

Such assembly haggling takes place at the end of every session, but this year it has been worse, with the result that Congress failed to adjourn at the end of last week as scheduled.

Three times last week the House and Senate failed to reach agreement on the nearly \$300bn (£400bn) Bill, and on each occasion Congress had to waste precious hours putting the Government on emergency life-support to see it through the next few hours.

The most recent emergency short-term extension was ap-

proved late on Friday, to allow the Government to continue functioning through the Columbus Day holiday weekend. But that measure expires tomorrow after which a further disruption of Government operations may take place, similar to the lay-off of 500,000 civil servants last Thursday, unless agreement on the Bill is reached quickly.

There are several reasons why this year's pre-adjournment scramble has been worse than usual. First, the session has been shortened to allow congressmen to begin campaigning for next month's election.

Second, congressmen, with their eyes fixed firmly on the forthcoming elections, have tried to hang many of their own "pork barrel" projects on the omnibus spending Bill, in the hope that in the last-minute legislative rush they would squeeze through unnoticed.

The biggest "pork barrel" this year has been a long-term

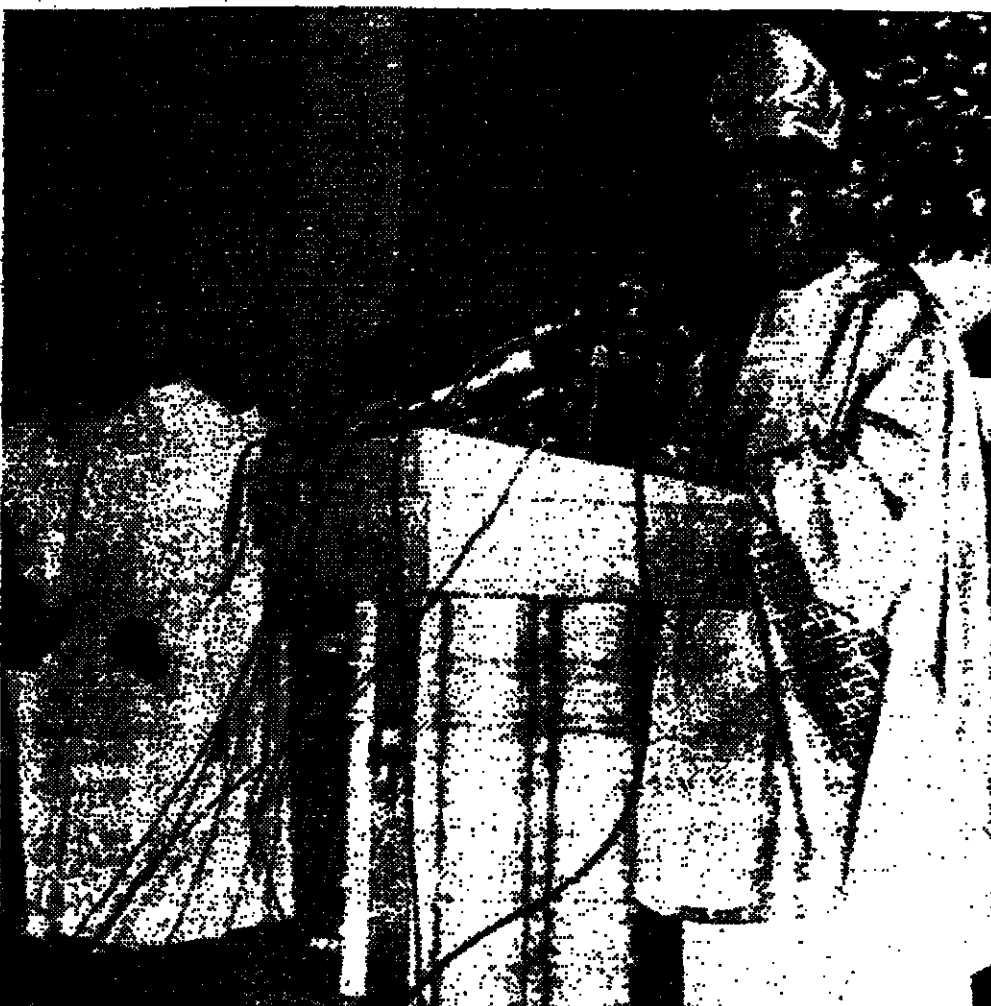
authorization Bill for \$186bn of water projects. The White House had discouraged new spending on water bills, even to the point of threatening to use its veto, but indicated that it was prepared to compromise if the House gave the President a free hand to continue supporting the rebels in Nicaragua.

The dispute between the Democrat-controlled House and the Republican-controlled Senate over funding for the anti-Sandinista rebels remains one of the main obstacles to agreement on the spending Bill.

Others involve restrictions on Anti-satellite weapons and spending levels for President Reagan's "Star Wars" strategy defence initiative.

However, agreement on the overall level of defence spending (\$293bn) has already been approved.

Congressmen from both parties expressed dismay over the failure to reach agreement.



Church militant: Cardinal Sin addressing a congregation of 5,000 before the march.

25,000 in anti-Marcos march

Manila (Reuters, AP) - Philippine business leaders, responding to a call from leading churchmen, joined in a protest by 25,000 marchers yesterday against the rule of President Marcos.

Bankers and students marched together with militant and moderate opposition leaders, carrying anti-Marcos banners and chanting anti-government slogans.

Cardinal Jaime Sin, leader of the 40 million Roman Catholic Filipinos, last week urged businessmen to join non-violent protests in what he called the parliament of the streets to end "repression and authoritarian rule".

Yesterday, celebrating Mass in a packed church before the march, Cardinal Sin told the demonstrators to "remain faithful to... this sacred shrine of peace, forgiveness and reconciliation".

Police and soldiers, who broke up a similar march two weeks ago with guns, truncheons and tear gas, were absent yesterday.

President Marcos stepped back from a possible confrontation with his opponents by giving them a permit for the march.

Mr Marcos, who is negotiating with foreign creditors for more than \$1.5 billion in new loans, ordered troops to stay away from the march. Opponents had said they would march with or without permit.

Cardinal Sin did not join the march, but his call to businessmen came under attack from Mr Marcos, who said on Saturday that he was fanning flames of rebellion and violating the Constitution.

The cardinal dismissed the charges as "astounding", saying he was only performing a moral duty.

Nato raises guard against terrorists

From Our Correspondent, Washington

Nato is stepping up its efforts to thwart possible terrorist attacks against United States missile and other nuclear sites in West Europe, a senior defence official said yesterday.

"Devices are being installed that are responsive to what we think we have learnt about how the sites might be attacked by terrorist groups", the official said at a briefing on matters to be discussed at Nato's nuclear

planning group meeting in Stresa, Italy, tomorrow and Wednesday.

He noted that the Soviet Union has a special force, known as Spetsnaz, which is trained for sensitive missions, including the destruction of Nato nuclear weapons. A mock Pershing 2 nuclear missile was available in the Soviet Union for practice by Spetsnaz troops

even before the first US Pershing was deployed in West Germany last year.

The upgrading of Western safety measures included both increased physical security and new methods to prevent terrorists from gaining entrance to the weapons sites, called igloos. In some cases guards were going on alerts twice a day and new guard towers had been erected.

Craxi set to rescue beleaguered Andreotti

By Peter Nichols

Rome

The Italian Government is expected to take steps over the next few days to dispel the atmosphere of sudden tension created by the grave attack on Signor Giulio Andreotti, the controversial Foreign Minister.

The attack took the form of a call in a parliamentary debate on Thursday night for Signor Andreotti's resignation over his alleged relations with Michele Sindona, the jailed Sicilian financier who faces further charges of complicity in murder and fraudulent bankruptcy.

Signor Andreotti called the attack a form of written and spoken banditry and said it was a concerted assault on his foreign policy, on his likely candidature for the presidency next year, and on the Christian Democratic Party.

In the event it was only the abstention by the Communists in the final vote that saved Signor Andreotti. Nearly 50 deputies belonging to the coalition parties voted against him.

However, on Friday the Communists performed an astonishing about-face and called for Signor Andreotti's resignation on the ground that on "a moral question of enormous importance" he had had the support of only 199 deputies of the 435 present.

This move was interpreted by some as a total change of mind, tactical or otherwise, overnight, and by others as a difference between Signor Giorgio Napolitano, leader of the parliamentary Communists in the Chamber, and Signor Alessandro Natta, the new party secretary.

Opponents of Signor Andreotti's foreign policy regarded the Communist abstention as an expression of their satisfaction at the elements which others see as too close to Moscow.

Meanwhile, the Social Democrats, who are probably the most inflexible of the five coalition parties in supporting the United States abroad, called for a meeting with Signor Bettino Craxi, the Prime Minister, to clarify the situation.

Yesterday the Rome newspaper *Il Tempo* published a long article by Signor Andreotti in which he pointed out that as Foreign Minister he rushed through the new treaty under which Sindona was extradited last month from the United States to stand trial in Italy. If the financier was now in the hands of Italian justice, it was thanks to him.

Murders in Sicily seen as warning by Mafia

Rome - Two men were shot dead near Cinisi in Western Sicily in an apparent warning directed at imprisoned Mafia leaders not to talk (Peter Nichols writes).

The victims were Leonardo Rimi, aged 32, and Calogero Caruso, aged 38. The first-named was a relative of Tano Badalamenti, an important Mafia figure now in Spanish custody awaiting extradition to the United States.

There were reports, so far unconfirmed, that his son had been arrested in Brazil and that both father and son were willing to give evidence following the example of Tommaso Buscetta, the first Mafia "Godfather" to offer testimony.

British winner

Jaen, Spain (AP) - The British pianist, William Georges Fong, won the first prize of about £3,700, a gold medal and a contract for a series of concerts in Spain at an international contest there. Another Briton, Iwan Llewelyn Jones, came fourth.

Students held

Santiago (Reuters) - Ten students were injured and 35 arrested on the second day of a 48-hour protest organized by Chilean opposition groups. Riot police charged into Santiago University and used birdshot, tear gas and truncheons to disperse about 1,000 students.

Duke in Egypt

Luxor (Reuters) - The Duke of Edinburgh arrived in Egypt for a meeting of the International Equestrian Federation of which he is president. The four-day meeting will take place on a cruise boat, sailing up the Nile.

Divorce sought

Los Angeles - Two months after John DeLorean, the car manufacturer, was acquitted of cocaine smuggling charges, his actress wife, Cristina Ferrare, has filed for divorce, citing irreconcilable differences.

Jakarta arrests

Jakarta - Police have arrested several people suspected of involvement in the bomb attacks that killed two and injured 16 in Jakarta's Chinatown last Thursday.

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Honecker sidesteps differences with Moscow

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

The German Democratic Republic celebrated the thirty-fifth anniversary of its foundation at the weekend with one of the biggest military parades seen in East Berlin, and an offer by Mr Andrei Gromyko, leader of the Soviet delegation, to engage in "open and honest dialogue" with the United States.

Troops, tanks and motorized units of the East German Army paraded past Herr Erich Honecker, the country's 72-year-old leader, and Politburo members from fellow Warsaw Pact countries yesterday morning, while Soviet-made helicopter gunships, some armed with missiles, flew overhead.

Western ambassadors stayed away as the Western allies protested at the Russian presence at the parade, which they regarded as a violation of the four-power status of all Berlin, including the former Soviet sector. The allies said the presence of East German fighters in the joint air safety control zone endangered civilian traffic in Berlin.

The parade included tactical missiles able to reach West Berlin, while goose-stepping soldiers from East German officer training schools marched past the podium to the music of communist songs and old Prussian Army marches.

At a ceremonial meeting in East Berlin on Saturday, Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, who is standing in for the ailing President Chernenko, said he had detected little evidence during his meeting with President Reagan last week that the United



Power and glory: East German armour in the anniversary parade, and Mr Gromyko with a proud Herr Honecker at the opening ceremony.

States was ready for serious talks on arms control.

He said the Russians would judge American intentions by deeds not words, and only time could tell whether Washington was really ready to make changes in some of its positions.

Mr Gromyko did not use the occasion to show any movement in the Soviet position, and accused NATO of being deaf to Moscow's many suggestions for a freeze on the development of space weapons. He said the deployment of NATO missiles last year had increased the dangers of war in Europe, and it was up to those countries

bearing the guilt to remove the weapons.

In a telegram of congratulations published yesterday in *Pravda* the Russians pointedly dwelt on the dangers posed to East Germany by West Germany. The telegram said reactionary imperialist circles, especially in West Germany, had tried everything to disrupt the creation of the republic, and were continuing such attempts today.

The message underlines Moscow's concern about close relations between the two German states, and is a further reminder to Herr Honecker

that it will not tolerate the limited attempts East Germany made in the summer to tread an independent path in policies towards the West.

For his part, Herr Honecker, who was obliged to cancel a visit to West Germany because of Soviet pressure, forcefully rejected West German contentions that the German question was still open. He said there were two Sovereign German states, completely independent of each other.

But he spoke out also for a return to détente, and for policies of dialogue, realism and reason. Unlike his Soviet guests, the East German leader

laid emphasis on the importance of fruitful talks to limit arms, though he said this was only possible after the removal of NATO weapons.

Both the Russians and East Germans have been at pains to gloss over their recent differences, and Herr Honecker has recently been making anxious protestations of loyalty to Moscow. But the differences clearly remain, as indicated by Moscow's unprecedented rewriting of Herr Honecker's telegram of congratulation to President Chernenko on the recent award of a medal.

In pointed contrast to the messages from other East

European leaders, his words were summarized, not given in full, and Moscow added in *Pravda* phrases about joint Soviet-East German efforts to remove the danger of war started by imperialism.

The anniversary celebrations come at a difficult time for East Germany in its attempt to give expression to feelings of nationhood. The sudden worsening of relations with Bonn, symbolized by the crisis this weekend over the refugees in the West German Embassy in Prague, has been a political and personal blow to Herr Honecker.

Czech police seal off Bonn's embassy as more seek refuge

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

Czech police sealed off the West German Embassy in Prague at the weekend. Unconfirmed reports said there were now 140 East Germans inside attempting to force a passage to the West.

Officials here and in the embassy refused to comment but *Bild am Sonntag* said yesterday that more East Germans had forced their way through railings and over a metal fence into the back of the embassy.

Since Saturday police have been patrolling the streets around the large, baroque building in the centre of Prague, checking identity papers of passers-by and stopping any East Germans getting near the embassy grounds.

Delicate negotiations continued all weekend but Bonn has said that the East Germans are taking a very tough line.

Bonn appealed on Thursday to East Germans not to try to extort visas by occupying West German missions. A statement said Bonn was doing its best to persuade East Berlin to ease emigration through normal exit channels and to allow more travel.

Herr Wolfgang Vogel, the East German lawyer who has handled all sensitive emigration negotiations in the past, is said to be handling the talks, which suggests that Bonn will have to pay a lot of money to secure the free emigration of the East Germans in the embassy.

Dejected Kasparov loses again

From Richard Owen
Moscow

Gary Kasparov, Russia's 21-year-old chess prodigy, has the stark possibility of defeat staring him in the face after a month of play against Anatoly Karpov, the world champion.

As the chess championship enters its tenth game at the ornate Hall of Columns near Red Square, Kasparov, as even his supporters admit dejectedly, is playing rashly and seems to be losing his nerve.

On Saturday the ninth game, which many experts had thought would end in a draw, brought Karpov, aged 33, his fourth victory on the seventh move. He needs only two more wins to keep the crown.

The match billed as a draw-out struggle of brilliant youth against cunning maturity is fast turning into a rout.

The general view is that, unless Kasparov pulls himself together, he could lose 6-0, a devastating blow from which he might never recover. "It would be the end of a brilliant career", one Russian said, shaking his head.

Looking down past the white pillars and glittering chandeliers to where the two men sit at the chess board on the red-carpeted stage, one can see how body language expresses the state of mind of the champion and challenger.

Karpov, pale and predatory, sits relaxed and bright-eyed, sometimes resting his chin on his folded hands, sometimes turning to stare nonchalantly at the audience or getting up to disappear behind the curtain, rather like a conjurer.

Kasparov, by contrast, sits stolid and square, his athletic and well-built frame apparently helpless in this war of nerves. He stares fixedly at the board, pondering moves for a long time.

NINTH GAME			
White, Karpov; Black, Kasparov			
1 P-Q4	2 P-Q4	3 P-Q4	4 P-Q4
5 P-Q4	6 P-Q4	7 P-Q4	8 P-Q4
9 P-Q4	10 P-Q4	11 P-Q4	12 P-Q4
13 P-Q4	14 P-Q4	15 P-Q4	16 P-Q4
17 P-Q4	18 P-Q4	19 P-Q4	20 P-Q4
21 P-Q4	22 P-Q4	23 P-Q4	24 P-Q4
25 P-Q4	26 P-Q4	27 P-Q4	28 P-Q4
29 P-Q4	30 P-Q4	31 P-Q4	32 P-Q4
33 P-Q4	34 P-Q4	35 P-Q4	36 P-Q4
37 P-Q4	38 P-Q4	39 P-Q4	40 P-Q4
41 P-Q4	42 P-Q4	43 P-Q4	44 P-Q4
45 P-Q4	46 P-Q4	47 P-Q4	48 P-Q4
49 P-Q4	50 P-Q4	51 P-Q4	52 P-Q4
53 P-Q4	54 P-Q4	55 P-Q4	56 P-Q4
57 P-Q4	58 P-Q4	59 P-Q4	60 P-Q4
61 P-Q4	62 P-Q4	63 P-Q4	64 P-Q4
65 P-Q4	66 P-Q4	67 P-Q4	68 P-Q4
69 P-Q4	70 P-Q4	71 P-Q4	72 P-Q4
73 P-Q4	74 P-Q4	75 P-Q4	76 P-Q4
77 P-Q4	78 P-Q4	79 P-Q4	80 P-Q4

Court turns down plea by Salvador

The Hague (Reuters) - The International Court of Justice has decided not to hear a request by El Salvador to intervene in a case brought by Nicaragua against the United States. It also decided to defer consideration of the admissibility of the El Salvador intervention.

The court will open hearings today over whether it has jurisdiction to deal with a Nicaraguan suit filed against the United States last April, in protest at the mining of Nicaraguan ports by the Central Intelligence Agency.

In an interim judgment last May, the court called on the US to cease support for military actions against Nicaragua's left-wing Government. In August El Salvador asked to be allowed to argue that the court had no jurisdiction over Nicaragua's case.

Rumasa order to be reviewed

Madrid (Reuters) - A Spanish High Court judge has ruled that the Government's decision last year to expropriate the Rumasa Holding empire must be returned to Spain's Constitutional Court for review, court officials said.

Rumasa was taken over on the ground that it was about to collapse and that its demise would cause a national economic crisis.

Poet honoured

Frankfurt (AFP) The Mexican poet, Octavio Paz, aged 70, has been awarded the West German publishers' peace prize, the country's highest literary honour. In his acceptance speech, he criticized the United States for consolidating authoritarian regimes and contributing to the "corruption of political life" in Central America.

Salvage delay

Ostend (AFP) - The wreck of the cargo ship *Mont Louis*, which sank while carrying nuclear waste, has shifted position after a storm off the Belgian coast. A spokesman for a group of salvage companies said that salvage work probably would not resume before tomorrow.

Bear fishing

Moscow (Reuters) - Soviet deep-sea fishermen, puzzled by an unusually heavy net, were surprised to find it contained two young whales and a pair of polar bears. All were eventually released after great difficulty in disentangling them, Tass said.

Five die in Karachi as Muslim rivals clash

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The festive season in the Indian sub-continent continued to cause death and destruction over the weekend. Five people died in Karachi in an area which saw bitter rioting between Sunni and Shia Muslims 18 months ago.

The Liaquatbagh area of the Sind capital is occupied by Mohajirs - migrants from India and the Moharrum festival, which is principally a Shia celebration of the martyrdom of Hazrat Hussain, a grandson of the Prophet, frequently causes international

tension. The devotees often draw blood from themselves with scourges as they march, reenacting the saint's martyrdom.

The deaths and a reported 300 injuries occurred in fierce fighting which ended when troops separated the two communities and imposed a curfew.

Similar Sunni-Shia clashes took place in Srinagar in Kashmir, despite a curfew. The Shias defied the curfew to take out a procession, and 41 people were hurt in attempts to prevent it.

First hanging in Turkey since military quit

From Basit Gurdilek
Ankara

The first execution since the restoration of civilian rule in Turkey last November was approved by President Evren and immediately carried out at the weekend.

Mr Ilyas Has, aged 29, a militant of the left-wing underground Dev Yol (Revolutionary Path) organization, was sentenced to death for killing a night watchman five years ago.

His execution raised the number of people hanged for political crimes since the Army coup in September, 1980, to 26.

General strike called to back Malta teachers

From Our Correspondent
Valletta

A general strike in support of striking teachers in Malta's state schools has been called in the island for Wednesday. Confederation of Trade Unions announced this at a mass rally yesterday.

The teachers' union, which is a member of the confederation, has extended its strike for another week.

A general strike has not been called in Malta for some 20 years and the teachers' strike is the second in their union's 65-year history.



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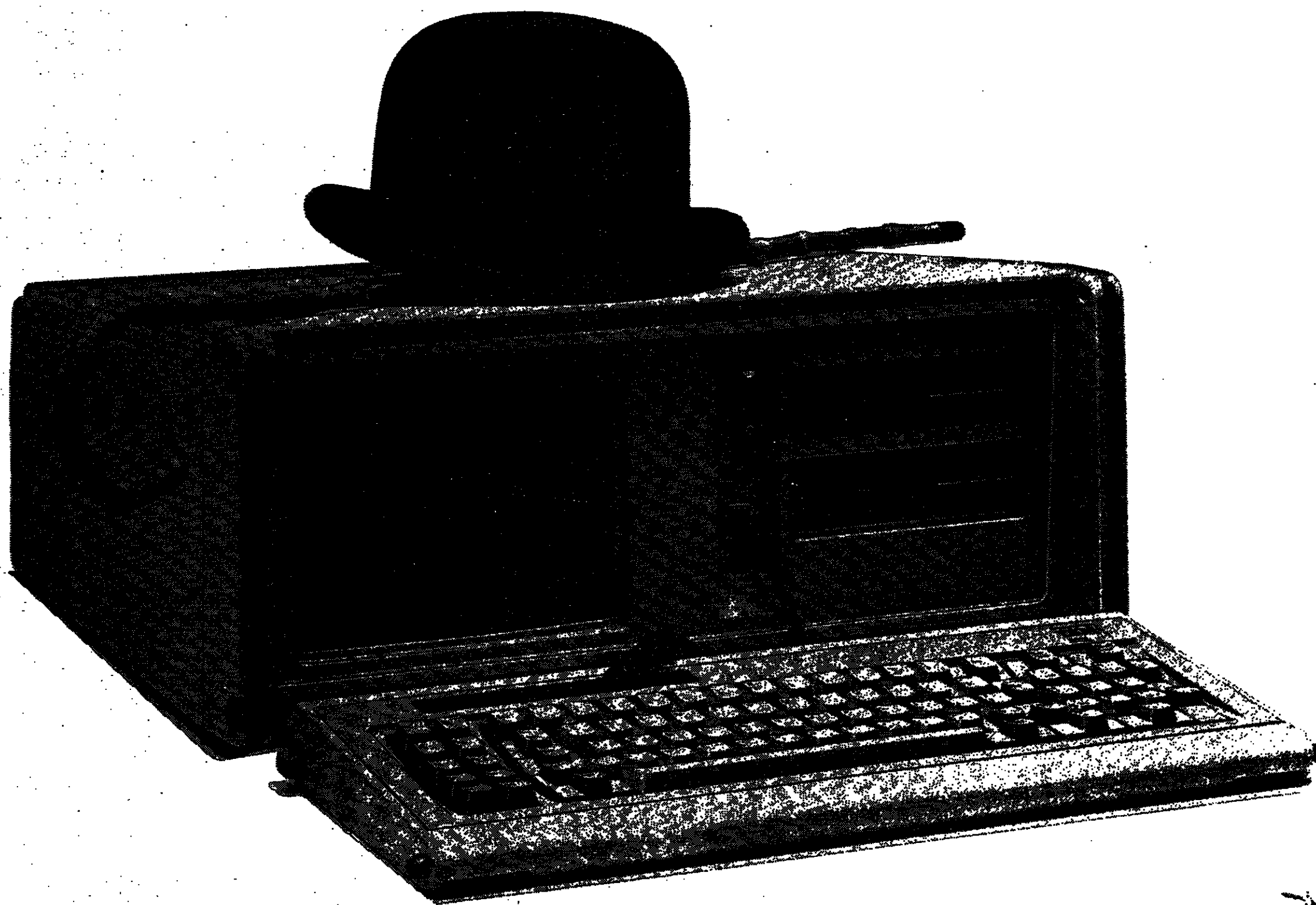


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Norwegian fighters turn back US charter jet from Soviet border

Oslo (Reuters) - An American airliner carrying 200 passengers came to within 15 minutes of the Soviet Union before the pilot realized he was 500 miles off course, the Norwegian Defence Ministry said.

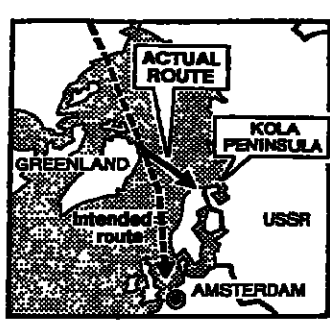
South Pacific Island Airways in New York said it was "likely" that the aircraft in question was an SPIA plane on a military charter flight carrying 200 Fijian troops to Tel Aviv via the polar route and Amsterdam.

A second airline spokesman said the troops were flying to join a United Nations peace-keeping force.

The Norwegian Defence Ministry said yesterday that two of Norway's fighters were scrambled when the Boeing 707 was spotted crossing northern Norway and heading for the Soviet border last Sunday.

The plane had been heading for one of the Soviet Union's most heavily defended strategic areas, the Kola Peninsula, where much of the Soviet northern fleet is based.

The pilot told Norwegian authorities the aircraft's radar was faulty and he changed



course as soon as he realized his position.

The Norwegian defence spokesman said that when the 707 was intercepted its pilot realized he was off course and turned westwards. "The consequences could have been serious", he said.

Mr Tom Mahar, SPIA's director of administration, said on the telephone from Honolulu: "It is likely it was our plane. We did have one in the area about then."

He said the 11-year-old airline had flown four such military charters for the Fijian Government this year.

The second SPIA spokesman in Honolulu said the four flights had all been made under contract to the Government of Fiji.

Amsterdam airport authorities said that when the SPIA flight landed there the captain said he was late because of a "diversion", but gave no further explanation.

The captain gave the name of "Guy American Airlines" but refused under the registration of SPIA.

In Washington, the Defence and State Departments said they were unaware of the incident. The Defence Department spokesman said: "Normally we would never receive information about a commercial airliner going astray. I have no information."

The State Department said it had no information on the incident, and nor did the Federal Aviation Administration and Civil Aeronautics Board.

Just over a year ago a South Korean 747 airliner was shot down by the Soviet Union after entering Soviet airspace. All 269 passengers died.

Warsaw's spycatchers net 431 British agents

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Warsaw's most experienced spycatcher has disclosed that 431 British secret agents have been arrested in Poland since the Second World War.

Colonel Zbigniew Wislocki was giving a rare and remarkably detailed account of Nato espionage activities in Poland to mark the fortieth anniversary of the Polish Secret Police. The occasion has been celebrated by candid television interviews with agents' widows and the unveiling of monuments.

Colonel Wislocki said several Poles working for foreign intelligence agencies had turned themselves in under July's amnesty for political and common criminals.

This had yielded "a good deal of interesting information about the forms and methods of work used by the opponent ... many names of career employees of Nato special services, addresses, drops and means of communication", he told the newspaper *Standa*.

In the 40 years of Polish (communist) secret police work,

the authorities had managed to convict 2,140 spies, including 713 working for the Americans, 491 for the British, 219 for the French and 206 for the West Germans.

In the post-war Stalinist arrests and trials, many opponents of the Polish Government were accused of working for the British, more or less at random. Even so, it came as a surprise to many observers in Warsaw that Britain was so high on the list.

The work continues apace, Colonel Wislocki said, covering internal affairs - "currently, through the agency of diplomats and Western correspondents, a study is under way of the moods and plans of the underground, and there are attempts to revive it" - foreign policy, military installations and the economy.

The colonel seemed particularly concerned about Poles who, having emigrated after martial law or during the Solidarity period, may have been recruited by the West and sent back. These people could still surrender.

Tough line on strike in Wroclaw

From Our Own Correspondent, Warsaw

Details of a short but bitter strike in a Polish factory have been disclosed by the Solidarity underground. It gives a rare glimpse of how political arguments between workers and managers are being handled now that Solidarity has been banned.

Work stopped at the three most important departments of the Wroclaw Palawag rolling stock factory on September 18. The workers demanded reinstatement of 10 of them sacked for taking part in demonstrations.

The strike was called off and the factory director proposed reinstating five of the men, the others giving up their jobs "at their own request" - a formula to reduce damage to their work record.

The sacked workers refused, and when talks resumed the director said only three workers would be reinstated, and voluntary resignation for the others was dropped.



Peking bouquet: Chancellor Kohl being welcomed to the Chinese capital by the young daughter of one of the West German Embassy officials

China greets key partner Kohl

From David Bonavia, Peking

Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, arrived here yesterday for a week's visit to China. His talks will be dominated by economic cooperation projects between the two countries.

Herr Kohl will have three sessions of talks with Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, besides meeting Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's elder statesman, Mr Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Communist Party, and President Li Xiannian.

Relations between China and West Germany are excellent, with annual trade turnover estimated at DM5,000m (£1,300m).

China regards West Germany as the economic pillar of the European Community and a vital partner in the Atlantic alliance to hold back Soviet expansion in Europe.

Later in the week Herr Kohl will visit Shanghai where he will lay the foundation stone for the new joint venture intended to produce annually 20,000 Vol-

kswagen Santana cars, as well as 100,000 engines, most of which will be exported to other Volkswagen plants round the world.

The deal is worth DM500m and is split 50-50 between the German and Chinese partners.

West Germany is competing with France for the sale of two nuclear reactors for power plants in the Shanghai area. Also near Shanghai, West Germany is competing against the Japanese firms for the sale of a hot strip steel rolling mill.

Red Cross tries to keep two Koreas in touch

From David Watts, Tokyo

To build on the successful cross-border relief operation, the South Korean Red Cross has proposed the reopening of contacts with the North on humanitarian issues.

A letter making the suggestion was carried by a North Korean Red Cross official who left the southern port of Incheon last week as the delivery of flood relief supplies from the North came to an end, according to Mr Yoo Chang Sun, president of the South Korean Red Cross. The letter called on the Northern Red Cross to reopen consultations.

About 10 million Koreans are separated from relatives, either because of the partition of the country at the end of the Second World War or in the aftermath of the Korean war of 1950-53.

Humanitarian issues were last discussed during the brief spring of détente between the two in 1972 and 1973. Those meetings were broken off by the North at the seventh session in July, 1973.

The South has also proposed that discussions be reopened on the fielding of joint teams for the 1988 Olympics to be held in Seoul.

Uganda meeting raises morale of opposition

Nairobi - Christian Democrats from Europe, Latin America and Asia, led by the Deputy Italian Prime Minister, Signor Arnaldo Forlani, attended a two-day conference of Christian Democrats International in Kampala at the weekend (Charles Harrison writes).

The meeting raised the morale of Uganda's opposition Democratic Party which was celebrating its thirtieth anniversary, and enabled the party to hold its first political rally since President Obote's Uganda People's Congress came to power in 1980.

Belaunde feels the strain

Economic collapse brings hope to left

Political parties in Peru must put forward their nominations on October 14 for the presidential election next April. In the first of two articles from Lima, Patrick Knight reports on the country's economic plight and the effect it may have on the election campaign.

Peru's economy is in as bad, if not worse state than any other in Latin America. The international debt, more than a third of which has been spent on arms, is \$13 billion - more than 70 per cent of the country's annual product. Because of the recession, and efforts to meet debt obligations, the economy has declined by 15 per cent in the past two years, implying a 20 per cent fall per capita and taking incomes back to where they were in 1965.

For the past three months Peru has joined Bolivia in not paying interest on its debt, and is in danger of being declared in default by the private banks. Unlike some neighbours, which have been able at least partially to meet an IMF agreed financial package and reorganization programme, Peru has totally failed to keep its targets.

The IMF programme has collapsed, and its loans have been suspended. The private banks have been unwilling to come up with any more money. On a recent visit to the United States, President Belaunde Terry asked President Reagan for a bridging loan of \$300m, which would just about meet outstanding interest obligations, but nothing more.

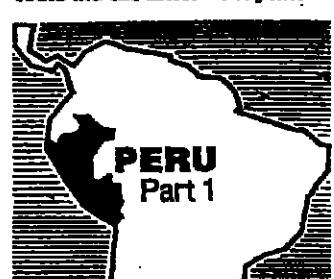
Peru's problems are regarded with scant sympathy by its creditors. As well as spending almost a third of the admittedly low tax-yield on the bloated armed forces, some of the best armed in Latin America, the Government is now considering an Air Force demand for 26 French Mirage jets costing \$770m, as well as 24 helicopters from the United States, and the Soviet Union. Russia has been a major arms supplier since the 1968-1980 period of military rule, when the West was reluctant to sell Peru arms.

Peru has become a big food importer, spending \$400m on essential foodstuffs each year. Farm output has gone steadily down.

President Belaunde Terry, who does not forget he was removed from power in 1968 by the military, has bent over backwards to buy off the armed forces, trying to avoid a repetition of the coup. Apart from that, he has almost ceased to govern.

Yet in spite of economic disaster and the death-toll of at least 5,000 in the bitterly fought campaign against the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas, he hopes to go down in history as the first Peruvian President in 60 years to have completed his term.

Such is the desperate economic situation that the left alliance could quite conceivably emerge victorious in the April elections. Lima, the capital, is the crucial factor. Its population has tripled from two million to six million in just 15 years, and a third of the country's population now lives in the teeming city. Although two thirds of industry is here, only a third of the city's workforce have regular jobs. The rest form a massive black economy. The only people who pay any attention to this problem are the Church and the parties of the left, and this could aid the latter next year.



Three main groupings are expected to put up candidates.

The party that now seems most likely to win is the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA), which has been an important force for 50 years without ever achieving power. APRA, which claims to be a centre-left party, has found a charismatic leader in the figure of 35-year-old Alan Garcia.

The parties of the right, including President Belaunde's Acción Popular (AP) and a new party led by General Morales Bermúdez, the last military President, seem unprepared to field a joint candidate and so may enter the contest divided.

The third grouping is the leftist Izquierda Unida, an alliance of eight Marxist parties which have come together under the leadership of the new Mayor of Lima, Señor Alfonso Barrantes, one of several Marxists who came to power in the cities last year. At the moment the feeling is that the left might win the first round but that it would be defeated by APRA in a second round.

Tomorrow: Sendero Luminoso.

ANOTHER EXPEDITION TO THE SOUTH POLE ON FOOT? GREAT SCOTT!

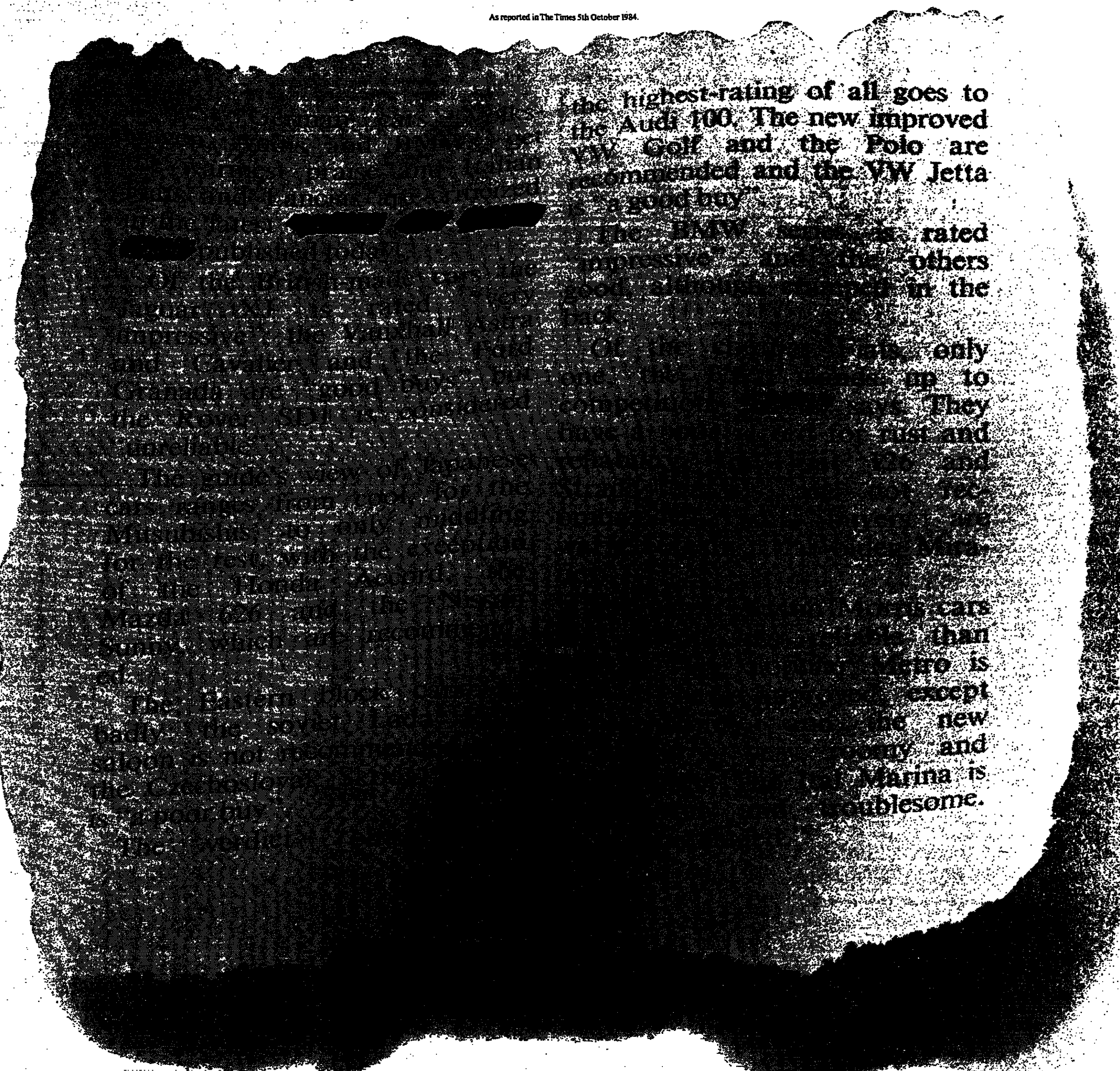
This year, Swan and Mear set out to follow in the footsteps of both Scott and Shackleton on their trek across Antarctica to the South Pole. And as with the original expeditions, Shell fuel and lubricants will be doing their bit.

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The Audi 100 has just been given the highest rating of any car by a leading consumer magazine.

As reported in The Times 5th October 1984.



Unfortunately we can't tell you which.



THE ARTS

Opera

Inspiring stream of melody and musicianship

L'Etoile
Opéra-Comique, Paris

Over the past few days musical Paris has been busy rediscovering Emmanuel Chabrier, or at least a part of him, and in doing so with much pleasure and just a touch of surprise. The piece causing the delight is *L'Etoile* (which could be translated as "Fluoroscope"). Chabrier's first major work, a farcical operetta written in 1877 when the composer was 36.

Its score has been praised by fellow musicians as disparate as Stravinsky and Reynaldo Hahn, but it is scarcely ever played. Indeed the last time it was heard at the Opéra-Comique, with Roger Desormières in the pit, was over forty years ago. And, as Francis Poulenc has remarked in his book on Chabrier, 1941 in Paris was not exactly a time for laughter.

Melody and musicianship fill *L'Etoile*. In its three brief acts, running to under two hours' music, Chabrier seems incapable of writing a dull tune or of orchestrating it with anything less than considerable finesse. Part is parody, as in the "Green Chartreuse duet" of the last act where Donizetti takes a thwack; part is straightforward bewitching song, such as "Chanson de l'étoile", which might well have been one of the numbers that so enthused the ear of Reynaldo Hahn. And Chabrier must have looked to himself for inspiration, for there is little to be drawn from the words of Leterrier and Vanloo, who might have provided reasonable librettos for Lescaux but were not at their best in *L'Etoile*. The opening line of the first solo, "C'est moi, le roi", set the verbal level of the evening.

But it is just the poverty of the text that has put out the bright light of *L'Etoile*. Other scores have triumphed over weak words. As likely it is mere fashion that has counted against Chabrier. (Collectors of operatic rarities will probably recall, though, that the ever-enterprising John Lewis Music Society had a shot at putting it on some

fifteen years ago.) The production by Louis Erlo and Alain Maratrat at the Opéra-Comique, first seen in Lyons earlier in the year, may well swing fashion round again.

They do their best to gloss over the kind of story W.S. Gilbert might have dreamt up on a bad day, of King Ouf I and his favourite astrologer, Siroco. Ouf gives his subjects an execution a year but it transpires that the life of his chosen victim, Lazuli, an itinerant pedlar, is closely linked by the stars to his own: Ouf will die a quarter of an hour after Lazuli, so he quickly slips in a clause saying that Siroco will breathe his last 15 minutes after that. Horoscopes, as is sometimes the case, do not work out as predicted, so Lazuli gets his girl, the Princess Laoula originally intended for Ouf, and the king and his astrologer may or may not make up for it by having a double execution next time round.

Jacques Rapp sets it all in an oriental paradise with blue minarets glittering under the sun. The costumes are exotic and the action is deliberately restrained. Erlo may have his Ouf (Michel Sénéchal, swathed in a burnous and imperfectly disguised behind dark glasses) crawling out of a stage box to announce that he is the king or Jules Bastin (Siroco) using his vast belly to move the lower orders out of the way, but there is no frenzy. That would destroy the flavour of Chabrier's music.

L'Etoile by its very title demands that there be a star role and it goes to the pedlar, Lazuli, a *travesti* part, taken in that 1941 revival by Fanély Revoli. It is now assigned to Colette Alliot-Lugaz, whose mop of blonde curls and broad grinning mouth recall Harpo Marx. Indeed, it is probably no coincidence that the whole production provides irresistible reminders of *A Night in Casablanca*. Miss Lugaz, who was spotted quite early on in her career by Glyndebourne when they cast her as Cherubino in the 1981 *Figaro* and later in *The Love for Three Oranges*, also has some of



Colette Alliot-Lugaz in the bewitching "Chanson de l'étoile", and the neglected Chabrier himself

Harpo's pathos when Lazuli falls asleep by the side of his barrow dreaming of his Laoula. The voice is true and instantly appealing, but it is the command of the stage that makes this Lazuli, a hoydenish Cherubino - yes, Glyndebourne had the right idea - that will stay etched on the memory.

Véronique Dietsch, possibly the best of the Micaséas used by Peter Brook in his *Carmen*, is a tall, wistful Laoula, as dreamy as her admirer. She is at her best in the "Couplets de la Rose", one of the numbers picked out for praise by Chabrier's British biographer Rollo Myers, and in the enchanting "Quatuor des Baisers" in the middle act.

Around the lovers are cast some of the Opéra's most experienced actor-singers, who are usually heard in Offenbach at this address. At the head is Michel Sénéchal, whose tenor still has an amazing compass and whose limbs are still supple enough to clamber over stage and auditorium as Ouf. Jules Bastin is not one to do much clambering nowadays and he relates what the stars foretell at a nice, steady pace and in a good round bass. Together they are marvellous in the "Green Chartreuse duet" as they sip that liquid (more the colour of Crème de

Menthe at the Opéra-Comique) to relieve their gloom. Good support comes from Michel Philippe as the ambassador Hérissou de Porc-Epic (a very Methiac and Halévy name) and Philippe Duminy as his secretary Tapioca (a very Leterrier and Vanloo name).

Even England provides a vital element of the evening in the shape of the conductor, John Burdick (born in Leeds), who never pushes his orchestra too hard, gives his singers plenty of room to make their comic points and allows the audience to experience the special savour in the orchestration that is Chabrier's.

EMI's French division have just brought out a recording of *L'Etoile* using the Lyons forces, conducted by Burdick's compatriot John Eliot Gardiner. Colette Alliot-Lugaz is the only common factor between the Lyons and Paris casts. But there are no plans at the moment to release it in the UK. Perhaps EMI should think again.

For those who want to catch *L'Etoile* in the flesh it is playing until Saturday, returns for two performances in November (2,7) and again in the last fortnight of December. There are cast changes.

John Higgins

Television

Ambiguous talents

The South Bank Show (LWT) returned with a portrait of Alan Bennett; he was undertaking research in medieval history before becoming part of *Beyond the Fringe*, thus establishing that slightly ambiguous persona which hovers somewhere between don and performer. But he has a slightly forlorn expression, like a dog which has been reprimanded for worrying sheep, which suggests that he may not particularly like hovering.

Last night's programme also made it clear that he is possessed by the idea of Englishness (of which he is the epitome), whether exemplified in the treachery of Guy Burgess or the domesticity of a Leeds aunt. Leeds is in fact his Cornbury, at least in comic perspective, and he can be almost painfully funny about the lives of the people there. In fact his ear for dialogue, and his eye for character, are such that he is probably one of the most inventive of contemporary

writers. And he has his sad side, too, which always helps.

Blue Money (LWT) was perhaps the closest television will get to pantomime, with Tim Curry in the role of principal boy: he has an agreeable face, like a rubber ball with teeth. In a plot so startling that it can only have been based on "real life", he goes through a bewildering variety of impersonations - in turn an Irishman, Californian, Cockney and Mancunian - as well as performing any number of cabaret routines.

It was something of an achievement, although the comedy was built a little too obviously around his "turns" and was as a result sometimes ingratiating. But it was still a funny and engaging film, which had the advantage of being very well made: this was escapist entertainment with a vengeance, especially since it was about someone who escaped.

Peter Ackroyd

Concerts

Strangely enticing

Circle/Rose
Nettlefold Hall

Nettlefold Hall. A strange name, as *Private Eye*'s resident poet, E J Thribb, would write. And you might think West Norwood to be a pretty strange place in which to stage a festival of contemporary music. But then much of the music to be played in the festival, in what is actually a comfortable and well-suited venue, is quite strange too, if enticingly so.

The opening concert, given by Circle, would have been a marvellous illustration of the efforts that *Ligeti's Aventures* has had upon other composers were it not for the fact that the earliest work on the programme, John Cage's *Water Music*, dates from the early Fifties. With its giant score, reaching six feet above the stand, its plethora of toys and other objects (including a squeaky plastic duck that was mercilessly dunked in a bowl of water) and its apparently entirely serious performer, here the pianist Stephen Montague, Cage's work surely counts as one of the most bizarre pieces of its time.

A similar aesthetic anarchy entertainingly characterizes the work of Vinko Globokar, as the events of *Discours IV*, for three clarinetists, make clear. First of all the players go walkabout. Then they all return to the stage and sit down to make animals-

tic noises with bass clarinets. Then they get up again and do other theatrical things, some of which, I thought, were distinctly Freudian.

Social interaction of a more innocuous kind was the point of Heinz Holliger's *Kreis*, in which four players sat in a circle and periodically passed their instruments to their neighbours. Stockhausen's *Expo*, written for Expo 70, seemed to be a modestly substantial piece, even though its instrumentation, which prescribes three short-wave transistor radios to which the players react according to the composer's instructions, might dissuade some from thinking so.

Whether or not the same seriousness of intent is present in Mauricio Kagel's *Ludwig Van*, written for Beethoven's bicentenary, is impossible to say. Stephen Montague's performing version heard here includes a sequence of slides by Suzanne Arbis that replaces the original film. As the work progresses, with the instrumental ensemble playing ever more disorientated fragments of the master's music accompanied by a recording, the images become more nightmarish. But Kagel's bizarre humour is here too; especially in the mime of the last symphony's chorus. Perhaps, after all, irreverence is the most reverent tribute that can be given. Or perhaps not...

Stephen Pettitt

LBS/Steinitz

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Paul Steinitz is 75. Over the years, with his London Bach Society choir and the Steinitz Bach Players, he has been a pathfinder in the exploration of both of Germanic baroque music (and Bach in particular) and of performance practice. We have good reason, therefore, to be grateful to him.

But he is not, as his age might suggest, simply a man of the past. Indeed, the final concert of his anniversary series showed him willing to be swept along on the tide of progress for the first time in one of his South Bank Bach Cantata series he used an orchestra of period-style instruments. He also boldly invited one of the leading figures of the younger generation of baroque musicians, Trevor Pinnock, to come and play Bach's D minor Harpsichord Concerto, BWV 1052.

Normally, of course, Pinnock would direct from the harpsichord, but not here. I must say that the presence of the third party created a series of unwelcome tensions, most ruinously in the first movement.

On the one hand there was Pinnock, eager and athletic, pointing his phrasing with buoyant, sometimes humorous

character, and on the other there was the poor orchestra, torn between allegiance to him and to Dr Steinitz's altogether more downy view of things. It did not help that most of the orchestra were out of Pinnock's field of vision.

Three Bach cantatas offered us a further glimpse of treasures that lie buried beneath the sheer vastness of the man's output. Formally the most radical of them was No 138, *Warum betrübst du dich, mein Herz*, which consists of a chorale interrupted by a series of ravishing recitatives, with just one bass aria near the end.

But the others were equally affecting. No 164, *Ihr, die ihr euch von Christo nennet*, made its transition from an atmosphere of tragic angst to confidence in Christ quite magically, while the Ascension Cantata *Wer da glaubet und getauft wird* (No 37), with its use of the chorale "Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern", spoke in brighter (dare one say more secular?) tones throughout.

There was some beautiful solo singing from the quartet of Gillian Fisher, Charles Brent, Wynford Evans and, in particular, Peter Savage. On the whole, though, these were fairly severe performances, and they could have been more taut.

Stephen Pettitt

ECO/Malcolm

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Concert halls and promoters should have little trouble in breaking even next year if Friday night's foretaste of 1985's Bach and Handel festivities was anything to go by.

On the face of it, we were in for a safe, comfortable, utterly conventional English Chamber Orchestra evening: few empty seats, a sturdy baroque programme, some feasting and some fireworks. As it turned out, from the Overture to *Alexander's Feast* to the *Musik für die Royal Fireworks* not a note was taken for granted; and the only comfort there was came from the fact that, under George Malcolm's direction, shape, form and texture were integrated into consistent good sense, and, within the chosen stylistic frame, fine sensibility.

As Bach's E major Harpsichord Concerto emphasized, the delight of George Malcolm's music-making is its good humour and unflinching good taste. It is at once grave and gay; sequences and motor rhythms

are enriched in their cumulation, and the keyboard as new, unfamiliar soloist assumes a quiet yet exuberant command of the situation.

The other solo work of the evening was Bach's Double Violin Concerto. José-Luis García and Mary Eade gave it a refreshingly serviceable performance in which strength of ensemble took precedence over the obstructive idiosyncrasy which too often mars more eminent performances in the bigger hall next door.

The Second Brandenburg Concerto, also, turned out to be something of a Hoffing sketch, with Anthony Halstead looking as if he wished the earth would swallow him up. Even if his had not been flying off his whooping and gurgling horn, Thuroston Dart's notion to use the instrument instead of a trumpet never seems quite convincing. The slow movement, with Neil Black's exquisite oboe, and William Bennett's flute, was something of a relief, and all was put to rights in an urbanely grandiloquent Firework finale.

Hilary Finch

Krenek's staggering degree of self-delusion

Johnny Strikes Up
Grand, Leeds

Well, now we know, Krenek's *Jonny spielt auf*, the "jazz opera" that swept Germany in the last years of the Weimar Republic, is the sheerest trash. As a love story it is trivial and sentimental, as a picture of the inhibited artist unloosed by the New World it is embarrassingly naive, and as a musical drama it is a dreary mess plugged with lumps of dance-band borrowings.

If the central character, Max, is a self-portrait, as Krenek has been bold enough to claim, then this suggests a staggering degree of self-delusion: Max as lover is soggy cardboard, and as composer quite unbelievable, listening to the mountains for his inspiration. But then nothing in the opera offers any sign that Krenek might have been in a position to sympathise with a real composer.

One is bound to wonder, then, why *Jonny* should have been so wildly successful in its time, and I suppose there is some point in this British

première production by the New Opera Company and Opera North if it indicates a few of the reasons. In the first place, Krenek obviously supplied a taste for slightly shocking modern chic, not only with his jazzy bits, but also with the motor car, telephone and express train brought on to the operatic stage. There must also have been an element of success breeding success. And perhaps too the presence of a black jazzman among the cast gave theatres an opportunity to proclaim their distance from Nazism. Now the novelties have all very

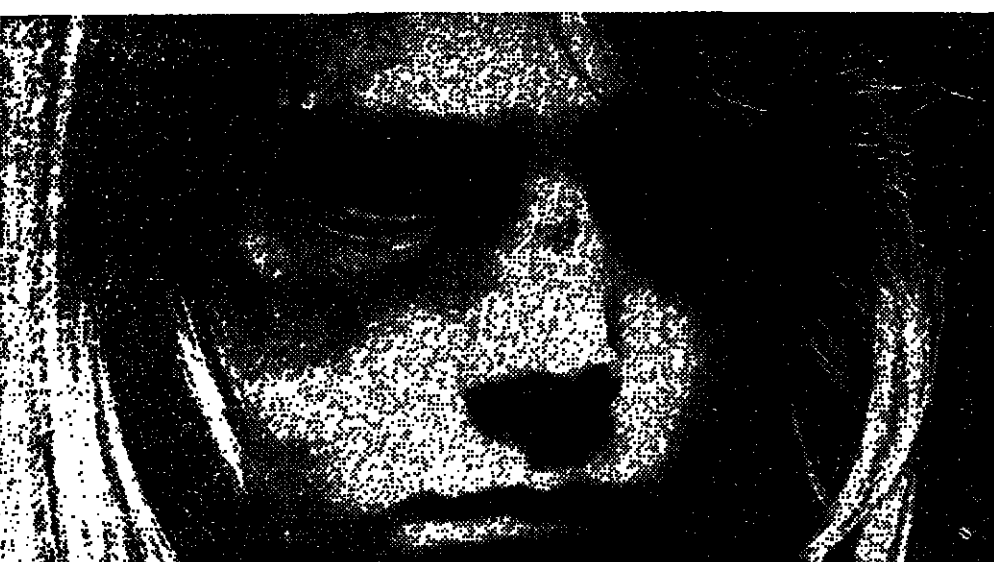
much worn off and one is left with Krenek's own inane libretto and his music which, the jazz aside, is devoid of character, interest or movement. Under the circumstances it is hard to complain if Anthony Bech's production should seem disillusioned: the work is too feeble to be sent up with any degree of conviction.

Visually the few striking moments come from Terry Gilbert's arrangement of the dances, and the orchestra under David Lloyd-Jones also comes to life when the jazz rhythms take off.

Jeremy Sams's English version of the text is efficient and as tactful as may be.

The cast includes the black American baritone Jonathan Sprague as a Jonny of some verve. Kenneth Woolam struggles manfully with the appalling part of Max, and Penelope Mackay offers some nice singing as his beloved Anita. Lyndon Terracini and Gillian Sullivan are the smooth and the maid out of a French farce, bereft in this vacuousness.

Paul Griffiths



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Dance
Royal Ballet
Sadler's WellsMade in Britain
The Place

The reason why so much fuss is being made of Sir Frederick Ashton's eightieth birthday, with special performances at Cambridge on the actual anniversary last month, at Sadler's Wells last week and Covent Garden next week, is that he is one of the two great choreographers so far produced in Britain. To avoid misunderstanding, the other is Antony Tudor, who matched Ashton in quality although not in quantity or range. Those two sprang fully fledged from the nest where British ballet was born, more than half a century ago, and even the best of their successors have not equalled them.

The Royal Ballet's repertory has become so lopsided lately that the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet had little choice for its all-Ashton programme, but at least that choice was of the highest quality. *Les Rendez-vous*, made in 1933, looks old-fashioned because of the designs (actually: the original costumes were better than those used now), but the dances have a freshness, lightness, zest and imagination that younger choreographers should envy.

There were some newcomers to the leading roles. Sandra Madgwick's coloratura technique enables her to sparkle through the ballet with smiling ease, giving a lively gaiety to its humour and romance. Mark Welford, in his first leading part, shows elegance and pliancy in his solos, and partners attentively if not yet with ease.

In *The Dream*, David Bintley's Bottom is the outstanding performance, with every passing thought visible in his actions, but Roland Price's Oberon has an impetuous sweep. Grahame Lustig will make a good Puck if only he drops the camp exaggerations which others introduced into the role and

Pliant elegance: Mark Welford in *Les Rendez-vous*

concentrates on his splendid dancing.

Facade completed the bill: a rare example of wit that remains amusing however often you watch it. To go from this programme straight to Dance Umbrella's *Made in Britain* was a sad experience. There are to be four more of these showcase evenings between now and mid-November, each different from the others. The purpose is to allow freelance dancers to try their hand at choreography. Unless this first of the series was grossly misleading, the message is that there is no great pool of neglected talent.

Even Julien Hamilton on this first programme, in a

collaboration with Kirstie Simson, succeeded only in proving how much of the success he enjoyed with *Musk* two years ago must have been due to the percussionist who contributed to it. This time, he and Simson saddled themselves with situations, characters and words of such incredible silliness that their skilled ease and sharpness of movement went for nothing.

For the rest, there were unconvincing attempts at humour (Gaby Agis's drunk was at least intermittently funny) and even more embarrassing attempts at serious dancing. The moral is that most would-be choreographers should not be.

John Percival

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Rupert Morris visits a mining community where families are torn apart and former friends attack each other's homes

A village by the pit divided

The action starts in Keresley before dawn. Among the earliest risers will be a group of miners' wives who go to the main colliery gate before the working miners arrive, to shout "Scab", or otherwise abuse them.

Mrs Ethel Hood will be the most vocal, as she is every morning before she leaves the picket line for her job at GEC in Coventry. Her son is working at nearby Daw Mill Colliery, and she threw him out of the house for it.

Elsewhere on the estate of pebble-dashed houses with tiled roofs built 60 years ago, about 20 miners are preparing for work. At about 6am David White gets a knock at the door of his home in Parkfield Road. It will be one of his colleagues.

They walk to work together, shadowed in the morning mist by police, who know where every one of the working miners, "scabs" or "blacklegs", depending on your point of view - lives. Most of the others go to work by National Coal Board bus.

David White and his wife, Karen, have put their house up for sale, but there haven't been any takers. They have had their windows broken twice, and the front and rear windscreens of their car smashed.

On his way to work David passes the boarded-up house of Steve Morgan, another strike-breaker who was more or less hounded out of the village. He can't sell his house either.

Round the corner in Shaftesbury Avenue, at Nev Bell's house, son Andrew may be the first to get up. For several weeks he was picking beans for £5 a day. He and his father have been on strike from the beginning of the dispute, and the family's modest savings have been used up.

Nev Bell will get up soon afterwards to go down to the picket line, or to meet other members of the strike committee to organize meetings, letters, collections and the distribution of money and food to strikers and their families.

If he sees a "scab" he will ignore him - even though he may once have been a friend. "People who cross picket lines are not trade unionists", is his simple dictum.

Alone in the Warwickshire coalfield, Coventry Colliery has most of its miners on strike. In spite of a local ballot that voted three to one in favour of working, the pit was effectively "picketed out" by the men from Kent and Yorkshire until the union at both area and national level gave official backing to the strike.

The number returning to work has risen steadily until now it is between 35 and 49 per cent, depending on whether you accept the union's or the coal board's figures. Most of the working miners live outside the village.

The inhabitants of Keresley are a polyglot collection of Georgians, Welshmen, Scots and Midlands, almost all with strong mining roots. Those who have dared to cross picket lines need all the moral support they can get, so they stick together,

drinking only in the Hare and Hounds (nicknamed the Hare and Scab), and never venturing into the colliery club or the Spread Eagle, where the strikers gather.

When they get inside the colliery gate, they are insulated for the time being from the hatred and abuse of those around them. I went with them down the pit.

After a rapid 800-yard descent in the cage, we travelled in a miniature train known as a "man-rider" up and down and round bends like a fairground roller-coaster at half-throttle, before a long walk through the darkness towards the coalface.

Some way along the treacherous roadway, where even experienced men stumble and fall from time to time, Andrew Walker is taking a breather after dragging equipment to and from the coalface.

Andrew, who is 21, went back to work two weeks ago alongside his brother, Kevin, 23, and father, Jimmy. The Walkers had been a popular family in the village, but not any more.

"In Keresley you expect trouble all the time", says Andrew. "They'll shout and scream at you if they are in a gang, but if they are on their own they'll speak to you."

He says he carries a piece of chain in his car for self-defence, and keeps the car either at his girlfriend's house in Radford, or on coal board premises. He hopes to leave Keresley "when I settle down".

Andrew says the atmosphere down the pit is "more friendly" than it used to be.

A little further along the roadway was Dean Chambers, also 21, who came back to work at the same time. Why?

"Because of my mates, I suppose", he says. It seemed to be easier for the younger lads to be phlegmatic about it; trade

unionism is not in their bones. Dean plays football for the Coventry Colliery team, and played alongside two striking miners the other weekend; he says they got on fine.

For the older men, it is more complicated.

Jack Wright, a repair worker, lives in nearby Camp Hill. Someone sprayed his car, and he thinks he knows who did it.

"I've just paid a £340 repair bill", he says. "How do you think I'm going to feel if I've got to work next to that bloke when this is over?"

Henry Foster, a 52-year-old Welshman, was mending a hose. He and his fellows have turned their hands to all sorts of jobs in the absence of their former workmates. He reflected on the fact that he could no longer go to the club, where he used to go most evenings, and that Ken Lewis, a striker who had been his best mate "doesn't bother with me now".

The food in the canteen is not all that different from the slices of pork, mashed potato and mushy peas being served free down at the sports pavilion by the striking miners' wives.

About 200 men, women and children come here every day, and another 250 go to two other "soup kitchens" in the village.

Here the members of the strike committee gather in earnest conclave while their

But his chief worry is his role as leader of the St John Ambulance Cadet Band, and the £1,000 worth of equipment languishing in a room at the colliery which has been taken over by the police.

At the face, the huge cutting-machine ground to a halt and the men paused in the damp, warm air, the lamps on their helmets flickering from one blackened face to another as they talked between mouthfuls from their snap-tins.

The faceworkers, only five or six of whom were working out of their normal complement of 72, did not want to be identified by name.

One said: "I supported the strike as long as I could but I couldn't go bankrupt. My wife was threatening to leave."

Another had gone back more or less straightaway. For him it was a simple issue: the union was defying its local ballot result and he was abiding by it.

When he had gone back to work he had been one of only 40. Now with more than 400 working, his colleagues were thanking him for having helped to keep the pit open.

The "Warwickshire thick" coal is prone to spontaneous combustion, and both on our way in and on our way out we passed arches of sandbags which would have been reinforced to cut air off from sections of the pit in the event of an all-out strike.

Then we walked and occasionally crawled another mile or so on the return journey. Suddenly the tunnel had the noxious smell of used air, full of gas. Then we climbed on to a man-riding conveyor belt, walked a little more, and got back into the cage.

Back up in the canteen, where an electronic scoreboard flashes up the latest attendance figures and local sports results, Steve Morgan talks with more bitterness than most.

After 12 years in the village, he moved out several months ago because his windows had been broken by Yorkshire pickets and his children bullied and abused at school.

"You think twice before you speak to anyone these days", he says, "and it mucks up your social life. The kids have learnt to find out how the land lies before they made friends with anyone, and that's not natural. I'll never live in a village again after this."

One of the canteen waitresses tells me how she doesn't speak to her brother any more, although she can see the back windows of his house every time she hangs up her overall on the washing line. His last words to her were on the picket line when he just said: "I'm ashamed to call you my sister."

The food in the canteen is not all that different from the slices of pork, mashed potato and mushy peas being served free down at the sports pavilion by the striking miners' wives.

About 200 men, women and children come here every day, and another 250 go to two other "soup kitchens" in the village.

Here the members of the strike committee gather in earnest conclave while their

women shout at them to come in and eat.

Nev Bell, former branch president and official spokesman and fund-raiser, whose voice is hoarse from speaking at meetings, is bearded by a representative of Workers' Power, who wants to organize a daily Coventry. Nev gives him the necessary authorization.

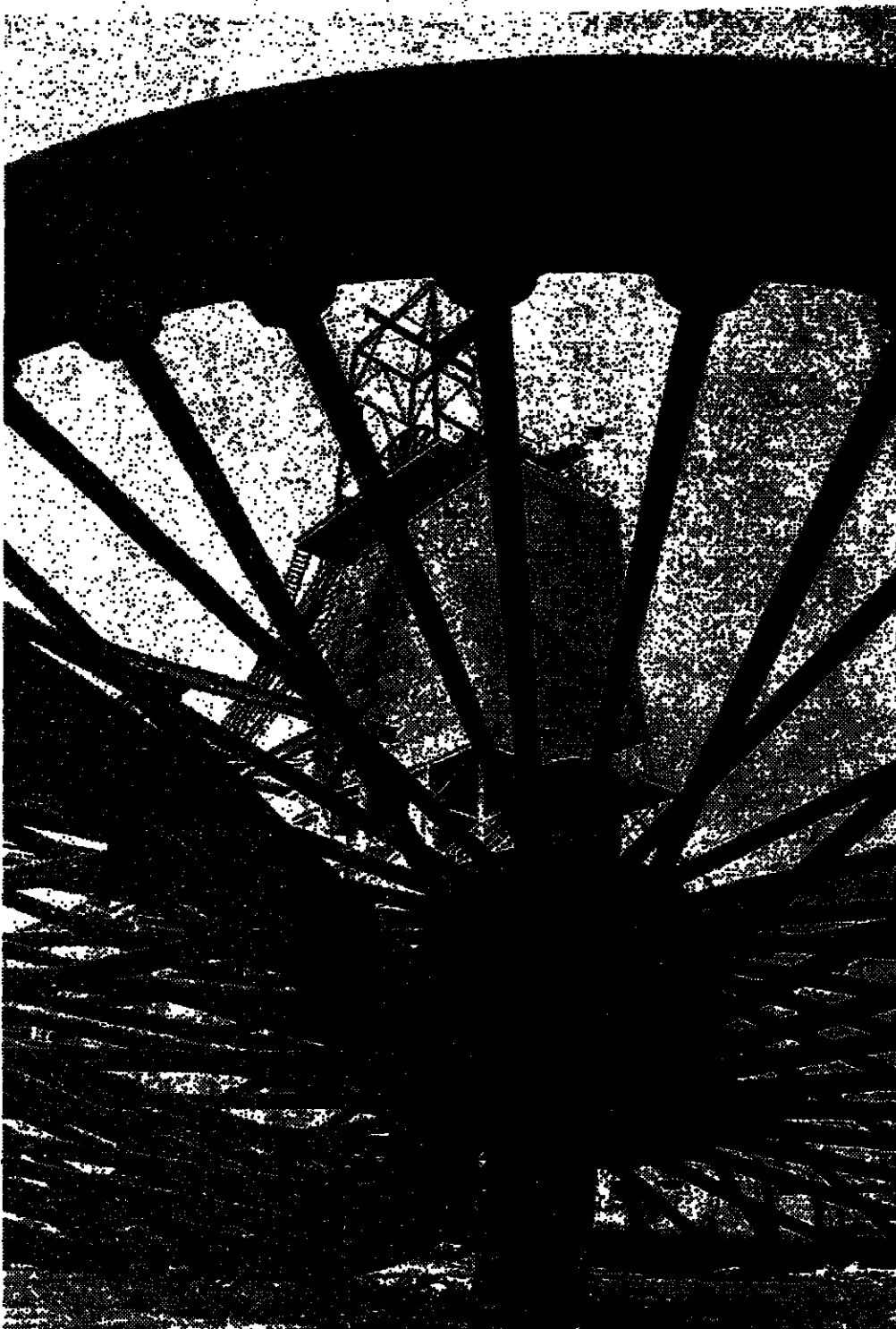
The women, meanwhile, are discussing a disco they are planning to hold in the pavilion that evening for children aged 11 to 15.

Morale is high among those at the centre of the strike. They have avoided much of the deprivation that other areas have suffered, thanks to some energetic fund-raising, and because trade union links are predictably strong in Coventry, where staff at firms such as Jaguar, Rolls-Royce and GEC organize weekly collections.

The strike committee receives about £4,000 a week which is spent on hot meals at the sports pavilion, food packages worth £7 each which are distributed every week to strikers in outlying areas, and £7.50 a week for the pickets and to meet individual cases of hardship.

Special care is taken over the children and the committee has spent £12,000 equipping the children with shoes for the winter term.

At the colliery club, opposite the pit, the strikers have taken over, and even officials, mem-



Coventry Colliery: Miners were picketed out before the strike was declared official in the area



Striker Nev Bell with wife Mary and son Andrew



The boarded-up house of a working miner

bers of other unions at the pit, are not made to feel welcome. A move to have "blacklegs" officially barred was defeated, but the atmosphere would be enough to deter anyone not on strike.

Inside, a man wears a badge which sums up the strikers' feelings: "We'll not always be poor, but they'll always be scabs".

Enmity is so pervasive that even the village's only fish and

chip shop has been "blacklegged" for serving policemen.

Cyril Smith, colliery manager for the past two years, sits in his office like a man at the centre of a siege. All the telephones except one in the medical room have been cut off, and the British Telecom engineers will not cross picket lines.

At the moment, Coventry Colliery is producing between 4,000 and 5,000 tons of coal per week - about half its normal production. An underground explosion and a geological fault were responsible for a £14m loss last year, but the pit has huge reserves and is earmarked for long-term development.

With hostility having reached such an appalling level, it was no surprise to hear Mr Smith confess to being worried about the day when the strikers would eventually return.

Elsewhere, a return to work is the last thing on people's minds. Back at Nev Bell's house, Mary Bell offers her guests a choice of corned beef or tinned salmon sandwiches for tea. Nev has tried the soup from one of the emergency food packages and pronounced it unpalatable.

Mrs Pat Davies has dropped in with a few members of the women's support group. She makes jam from blackberries

picked by the local lads and sells it at 50p a jar to her workmates at GEC.

The conversation turns to the village "scabs" - the Hitchcocks, the Fosters, the Walkers, some of whom were close friends but are now ostracized.

Pat Davies and her husband Ray became involved in an argument recently with Billy and Cath Wood from round the corner; Billy had gone back to work and Cath wanted to pick a bone with the Davieses over something that had passed between them.

Pat describes how a brawl developed among the four of them; the police came and threatened arrests but relented.

Pat believes the police are clearly on the side of the strike-breakers, a view supported by Colin Ward, one of the strike leaders. He says he was beaten up by police, who arrested him on the way to a "blackleg".

Andrew Bell, who is only 17 and has been on strike longer than he has worked at the pit, finds all the aggro hard to take; he has friends who have gone back to work, and he still talks to them. He says he will give it another week and then go to the JobCentre and look for something else.

It is nearly 8pm now, and David and Karen White have dropped their three-year-old son with her mother, and are ready to go out for a drink - not in Keresley, of course, but via winding roads to a quiet country pub.

There they explain how, since David first crossed the picket lines, they have gradually become alienated from the rest of the village.

Their neighbours won't speak to them, or to their son. Karen dare not shop in the village, and won't come home between two and three in the afternoon because that is when the wives gather in one of the gardens opposite. Both have nothing but gratitude for the police, without whom David reckons no one in Keresley would be at work.

Karen rings them whenever she is going to be out all day, or when the throwing of stones or conkers by the neighbours' children becomes unbearable.

From midnight, with a bit of luck, Keresley might be able to enjoy a few hours of peace.

Chief Superintendent Frank Garrett, divisional commander of the Warwickshire force, says: "What worries me is what happens when this dispute is over. I've no doubt that we shall have to police at a higher than normal level for some time after the dispute."

One of the strikers' wives told me a story of a Welsh miner who died recently in his eighties. When a neighbour was told of the death, he said: "Oh, you mean Dai the Scab", referring to a local dispute in 1918.

There is every reason to believe that the scars and grudges in Keresley will last just as long.

My car to be drug in

The many

'I supported the strike - but I couldn't afford to go bankrupt'

Face man who is still working

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Controlling numbers

The prison population could be reduced by about 5,000 offenders, if sentencing changes achieved in a Home Office project in Hampshire were reproduced nationally, according to a recently published report. The project, carried out over 1981 and 1982, changed sentencing practice by increasing alternatives to custody for adult offenders.

When the scheme started, most probation officers said there was a wide scope for reducing the use of custody. But more than three-quarters of the Hampshire magistrates thought that the custodial sentences were "about right" in length, and supported shorter sentences, only if linked with tougher custodial conditions.

The report shows that while sentencing in the Hampshire magistrates' courts remained the same as in all magistrates' courts, there was a substantial change in Crown Court practice.

Between 1980 and 1981, the use of immediate imprisonment dropped by about a seventh,

while there was little change in England and Wales as a whole. In Hampshire, the average length of a sentence dropped by about a fifth, against a general but less pronounced move towards shorter sentences nationally.

Hampshire's crown courts more frequently used fines and probation instead of custody.

If adopted by courts generally, the research unit says, changes in practice of this order could reduce the prison population by more than 5,000 and "make a major contribution to relieving overcrowding".

Instant justice

Among the latest developments in legal computers is an electronic mail system for lawyers who use the expensive legal data base - the largest in the country. Lawyers can now send an A4 document instantly from London to any number of destinations in the country for less than the cost of a first stamp.

It can also be used for internal messages: Within seconds of being sent a memo or letter will arrive in an electronic "mailbox" waiting for the recipient to read incoming mail.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: THE LAW

Cells for the sick

Research at the Maudsley Hospital's Institute of Psychiatry shows a radical change in the treatment of offenders convicted of manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility.

The research, by Susan Dell, a lecturer in forensic psychiatry at the institute, shows that such offenders are now far more likely to receive a prison sentence than be sent to a special hospital.

On a sample of 253 offenders convicted of manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility between 1966 and 1977, she shows that sentencing practice completely changed and jail sentences were much more common than hospital orders.

One main reason for this, she says, is a change in Department of Health and Social Security policy over the special maximum security hospitals. With overcrowding at Broadmoor, admissions started to be filtered rigorously and only patients needing that special maximum security were received.

Secondly, there was a change

in professional opinion about the treatability of psychopaths. In early years treatability was not a ground for admission, but it later became necessary to prove the offender actually reviewed and based on public safety criteria alone.

This would help remedy the illogically different ways in which very different offenders are currently assessed for release.

Frances Gibb

Mr Dell urges reconsideration

Miles Kingston is on holiday.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 465)

ACROSS
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5 1,000-eyed giant (5)
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21 Beirut Rep. (7)
22 Salisbury same (5)
23 Reservation (7)
24 Drum incessantly (5)
DOWN
1 Threadbare (6)
2 Mali, Nigeria river (3)
3 Clever chap (6)
4 Share market (5,8)
5 Scottish Ian (4)
6 Penalty (7)
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12 Unquestioning (6) 16 Shelter (6)
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Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

MONDAY PAGE

Tomorrow rock star Pete Townshend of The Who, a cured heroin addict, addresses Young Conservatives at the Tory Party conference. Bryan Appleyard reports

My crusade to beat the drug menace

"Heroin is the pursuit of oblivion - that's what it's all about." Pete Townshend began that pursuit in 1981, 18 years after the formation of The Who, a rock band which made its name with the celebration of joyous, nihilistic, youthful destruction. Throughout that period he was surrounded by junkies and, to some extent, he still is. But, until 1981, he never felt the need.

"My brush with heroin was actually connected with an alcohol problem," he explains. "People always seem to end up with heroin after passing through other things. In my case it was alcohol."

"I wanted to stop drinking and I was prescribed a drug called Avivan, a slightly hypnotic anti-depressant. Its effects are remarkably similar to heroin. I became very interested in those little blue pills because I realized that by carefully overdoing it with them I could not only stave off depression and jitters but also feel very good."

"After six weeks it stopped working. I started to take higher and higher doses. Well I was numbing in a very druggy crowd at the time so it was fairly simple for me to find something which prevented me emotionally falling to bits - and that was heroin. It was very cheap. I began smoking it. I believe smoking is the most instantly addictive. It's such a pervasive, ritualistic experience."

After a brief flirtation with the drug, in 1981 Townshend shocked the music world by moving to California to be treated by Dr. Meg Patterson, a specialist in drug treatment. He had helped with her work in the past. It involves the use of electrical signals transmitted into the brain which appear to reduce craving and anxiety. Within 20 days he was back in London and off the drug.

His belief in Dr. Patterson's methods led him to write to Mr. Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, and three months later he met Fowler and his junior minister, John Patten. Clearly

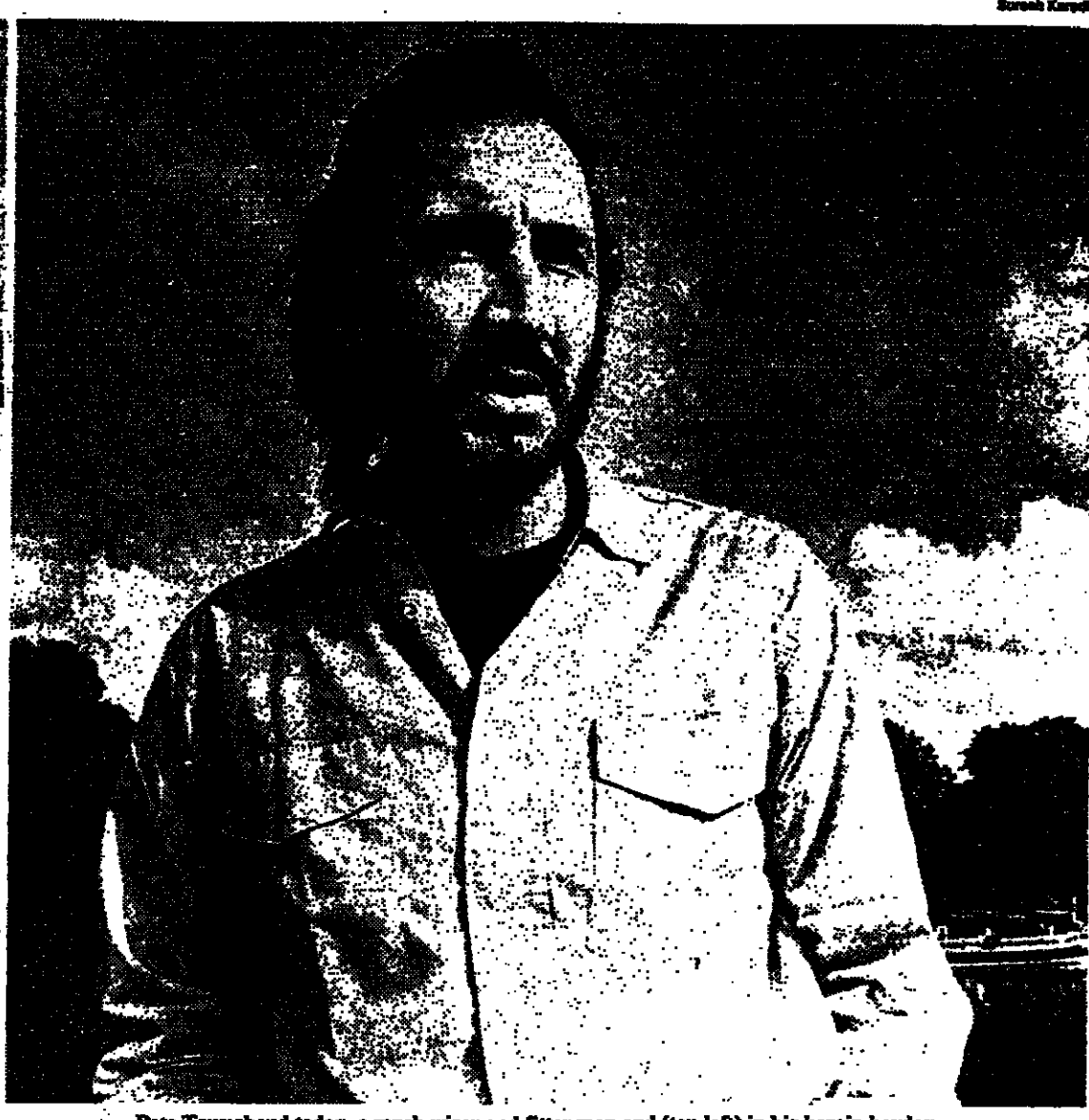
impressed by Townshend's extensive medical and social knowledge about the effect of drugs, Patten invited him to speak at a Young Conservatives meeting tomorrow at the Tory Party conference - a strange venue for a confirmed socialist who believes that Conservative policies are partly to blame for the scale of the drug problem in Britain.

"It's not a problem you can separate from other problems. In this society oblivion is one of the only ways you can find balance because everything seems so frantic, so dangerous. With a right-wing government everything also seems so uncertain. People tend to become absorbed in their own emotional and physical feelings. Most people go to the pub and get wrecked and that's what I did until my liver more or less gave out. I needed these moments of oblivion and when that stopped working I needed to find something else."

But there are twists and turns on the road to oblivion. Townshend is convinced that the heart of the heroin problem lies in the number of misunderstandings about its physical and psychological effects. For one thing he points out that, whereas alcoholism is fairly uniform in its effects, heroin's impact differs widely from one individual to another.

So he is impatient with suggestions from some journalists that becoming addicted is quite difficult. "It can be uncomfortable to begin with because you're sick quite a lot but you don't really feel anything. I think the real point is that if you're 15 or 16 withdrawal isn't so bad because you're healthy and strong. So you go back. And each time it gets worse until finally it's so bad you can't get off, you're so physically emaciated. When you use heroin you don't feel the need to keep yourself healthy."

"I thought I was going to end up dead. It seems to be an end-of-the-road thing. In my case it was absolute desperation. It was a futile



Pete Townshend today, a much wiser and fitter man and (top left) in his heroin heyday

hand-in-the-air gesture. I couldn't do anything to feel good any more. I couldn't even drive from A to B.

"And remember the rock business is privileged in one important respect - you can earn a living in any state. Someone will make sure you get on that stage - someone will be watching to make sure you don't die."

Townshend associates his decline into nearly-terminal alcoholism and heroin with a sudden feeling in the mid-1970s that he had lost his grip. Until then his status in the pop world made him a feared figure. He was not just a musician, he was a spokesman for the band and for disaffected youth. But when punk came along he noticed that rock journalists suddenly talked to him differently - he was no longer at the top, a new generation had superseded him.

The crisis arose at a party in New York. He was drinking steadily when he noticed everybody vanish to the lavatory to take their cocaine.

"I just thought this is ridiculous. I'm actually missing out because I don't use drugs. I made an absolute positive decision to use drugs again. Cocaine, alcohol, Avivan and heroin followed."

But with the help of Dr. Patterson he pulled out of the suicidal decline. He now lives and works in Twickenham and has two daughter

aged 15 and 13. He is utterly convinced they and their friends are safe because of his experience and knowledge.

"I can spot a junkie a mile off, he says and lists three key areas of symptoms."

● Nodding off. Sudden short, deep sleeps and inability to maintain interest for periods.

● Yellowish skin and dilated pupils.

● Difficulty in holding food down in early stages of addiction combined with a seemingly healthy appetite. Also a general decline in well-being through the day. By the evening early users often appear to have mild 'flu'.

And this is his first recommendation to the Young Tories tomorrow. He wants to see parents, teachers and children thoroughly educated to recognize the symptoms - "It makes me confident about being able to help other addicts. If you can recognize an addict you can allow them for the first time in their life to tell the truth. If you've had to resort to that kind of drug there's something you haven't been able to talk about. Every junkie has to lie."

His second demand is more treatment. He sees only two ways: brutal detoxification programmes involving confinement and exercise. The latter is, he reckons, an underrated aid in the whole process.

Secondly there's Dr. Patterson's methods which, he is convinced, will ultimately be available as a matter of course from GPs.

Dealing with supply is, he believes, virtually futile. The drug is now an international currency, used by terrorists, full-time dealers or casual emigrants wanting to start off with plenty of cash in a new country.

Apart from a love-hate relationship with tobacco and an addiction to coffee, Townshend is now drug-free. Yet he remains obsessed with the subject. He declined to become involved with a recent campaign among younger pop stars against heroin but with the kind of access to Government circles he seems to enjoy, he is clearly able to do more while making less noise about it.

There is one final irony in his case which demonstrates the strange twists and turns involved in any drug-influenced biography.

He is convinced heroin saved his life.

"This is probably the most controversial thing I'll ever say about heroin. If I hadn't become a junkie I would not have gone to Meg Patterson and if I hadn't done that I would be dead. I would have crashed my car, gone back to alcohol, combined with tranquillisers - all the standard ingredients of the drug/alcohol cocktail death story."

Knowing when your child is hooked

Last year, 4,186 families had to accept that their child had become a registered drug addict. As only a very small proportion of the young people who use drugs are registered, in countless other households the misery of living with suspicions, accusations and denials will continue.

"Why are there small spots of blood on Christopher's shirt sleeve? why is Ann's mood so altered, why has she withdrawn from the family? Is it imagination, or are her pupils narrowed and pinpoint?"

By the time the addict has resorted to stealing from his own home, to shoplifting, cheque book and credit card forgery, and the girls to prostitution, only the most trusting parent will have failed to spot the diagnosis.

Nobody knows the size of the problem. Professor Griffith Edwards, who holds Britain's only chair in addiction behaviour, at the Maudsley Hospital, dismisses as entirely speculative recent reports which put the number of hard drug users at between 50,000 and 150,000.

He believes it is as much a doctor's duty to say what is not known as what is. He regrets that pressure groups and politicians might exploit this vacuum in medical knowledge by inventing statistics to further their own campaigns.

He says that even when the patient has registered, owing to the dearth of controlled trials, doctors have little knowledge of the best treatment.

If a doctor who sees addicts all day does not know the best treatment, how is a parent with experience of only one case expected to react? Fortunately an organization, Families Anonymous, arranges meetings where parents and families of addicts can derive mutual support and comfort by discussing their surprisingly similar stories.

The organization's value is in easing the burden of guilt which all addicts' parents feel. Families Anonymous believes alcoholism or addiction to other drugs is a disease, and that relief can only stem from permanent and total abstinence. The organization and Narcotics Anonymous, a kindred group for addicts themselves, also teach that parents have to be firm.

But even in the best private clinics, the success rate is only seen to 10 per cent for the most receptive patients.

Dr. Maurice Lipsedge, a psychiatrist at Guy's Hospital who is also medical director of the Charter Clinic, in London supports the aims of Narcotics and Families Anonymous and agrees that firmness is important.

He believes that these organizations are an infinitely successful way to encourage and foster this resolve. Once a person has been addicted they will remain vulnerable always.

He is certain that addiction affects

people from all social and emotional backgrounds. He does not believe that there is an addictive personality likely to succumb to drugs, and believes that the addicts' preoccupied, socially destructive character, their loss of ambition, selfishness, ruthlessness and dishonesty, are not a cause of addiction, but a symptom.

He is not surprised that many parents have similar personality problems and difficulties with social relationships: they have all had a home given by the addicts' behaviour.

Dr. Lipsedge is very critical of clinics and doctors who aim to maintain addicts on methadone, a heroin substitute, rather than heroin itself. "As a treatment," he says, "that is just about as intelligent as persuading an alcoholic to change from gin to vodka."

Dr. Trevor Turner, Lecturer in Psychiatry at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, is outspoken in his views based on his clinical experience. He says that although the consequences to the health of an addict are doctors' problems, uncomplicated addiction is not. "The idea that addiction is a disease is a myth. It is disgraceful that parents, politicians and parsons have been able to shift their responsibilities by claiming that the problem is medical."

"In my view the use of heroin is more widespread because it is readily available and comparatively cheap. I agree that there are some 'perfectly normal parents' who have addicted children, but in the main the addicts have either had a poor family background or demanding, anxious and over-involved parents."

Dr. Turner thinks that heroin addiction is often a manifestation of an immature personality and rebellion through apathy. Although he agrees that it is impossible to predict who will become an addict, he says that when cases are reviewed retrospectively indications can often be seen.

Professor Edwards's middle line seems to appeal to most doctors. He says that the causes and nature of addiction are multifactorial. There may be a biological element, perhaps differences will be demonstrated in the neurotransmitter systems of the brain.

A postgraduate student, formerly prominent in national student politics, told *The Times* that some of his university friends take marijuana or cocaine, but heroin is unfashionable, the drug for failures and misfits. He believes they start by seeing it as a romantic gesture.

However much doctors may debate technicalities they all agree that unless the Government reduces availability, unless parents acknowledge that the well being of their children must be the family priority and until judiciary appreciates that dealers are nearly always users and therefore consummate liars, no amount of medical care will stop addicts growing thinner as profiteers grow fatter.

Dr Thomas Stuttford

Heroin: the facts

The British share of a thriving international heroin black market is reported to be worth £200m annually. With a street value of £60,000 a kilogram, middle men divide between them profits of more than 1,000 per cent.

There is a direct relationship between availability, cost and the number of addicts. The price is now lower than ever before - £10 will buy enough heroin to keep an established addict satisfied for 24 hours, less than his parents would spend on a bottle of malt whisky.

Although the number of addicts is unknown, the statistics of registered addicts give an indication of trends. In 1973, 807 former addicts registered and 508 new names were added.

In 1983, 1,678 old addicts were joined by 4,186 recruits. Fortunately the death rate has not shown a corresponding increase. In 1973, 55 addicts died directly from addiction; in 1983 there were 78 deaths. Addiction will have played a part in the deaths of many times this number. Fifteen years ago it was estimated that 10 per cent

of addicts died annually. Now the figure is thought to be 2 to 3 per cent.

The lower death rate from heroin, smack or H in users' parlance, may be due, in part, to the changing method of using heroin. More is taken by snorting the powder - snorting, or by "chasing the dragon", inhaling the fumes after the

powdered heroin has been melted over heated oven foil or on a thin tin lid; less through intravenous injection - mainlining.

Dirty needles with traces of other addicts' blood left on them are responsible for spreading hepatitis B septicaemia. It seems probable that when AIDS is established in the heterosexual as well as homosexual community, it too will be spread in this way.

Heroin dealing has links with organized crime in general and prostitution in particular. Prostitution is a ready way for women to make money needed to service their addiction.

Addicts, when they give up heroin, describe it as "coming clean". At this time they experience "cold turkey", usually, according to some doctors little worse than, and similar to, an attack of influenza.

The many parts of a man on the make

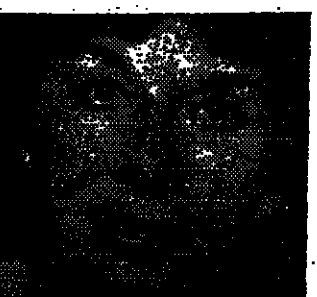
The new magazine, *Working Woman*, has been criticized for "a lack of understanding of those of us who want our development properly recognized" (Carol Sarler, *Marketing Week*). Miss Sarler also complains that the magazine does not apply itself to the special problems of women in business.

How unfair, since week in, week out, publications devoted to working men - *The Economist*, the *Financial Times* and the business supplement of *Sunday newspapers* - consistently fail to highlight the unique problems facing their readership.

The time has surely come for a magazine reflecting the businessman's needs, so willfully ignored by existing media. A magazine, for example, like *Man on the Make*.

I have been lucky enough to obtain a sneak preview reading of this proposed publication, whose launch is set to coincide with the eve of this autumn's CBI conference, and in the interests of readers of this column, memorized the first ever *Man on the Make* centre-fold interview in its entirety. Here it is.

Our very first *Man on the Make* is Mr. Brillo Calculating of Calculating Enterprises Inc. Mr. Calculating is a graduate of the National School of Psychological Warfare, where he obtained a first in Office Politics, a course he advocates with enthusiasm: "Forget about



PENNY PERRICK

an MBA from the Harvard Business School, it's never got anyone into the right golf club yet."

Can a brilliantly successful man like Calculating still find time for important personal relationships? "Good heavens, yes. In fact it's vital to be able to switch off completely at the end of the working day. That's why I and my wife, Lady Camilla Calculating, make a point of spending evenings together, either giving intimate dinner parties for about 20 people - the chairman of the board, the director of our merchant bank and other close associates - or relaxing by spending the time with overseas clients."

"We must have seen *Cats* about ninety times by now and we've sat at the front table of

that amusing little Middle Eastern nightclub in Soho so often that the belly dancers regard Camilla as a sister."

"It's vital for busy chief executives to take proper holidays, so twice a year I drop Camilla at her drying-out clinic and toddle off to this health farm run by Mrs. Voluptua Wobble."

"A few days of drinking my gin with Perrier instead of the usual tonic really bucks up the system and, over the years, I've made some very useful contacts in the massage room."

"In fact, the deal to build a 50-storey leisure centre in the Sudan was clinched when the contractor, Billy Breezeblock, and I were undergoing one of Mrs. Wobble's deep-acting seaweed treatments."

Does he have any fashion tips for the working man? "Certainly, it is essential to be properly turned out and, however busy you are, you should always find the time to remind your wife or your chauffeur to take your suits to the cleaner regularly."

"I disapprove of wearing a lot of jewelry at work but a diamond tie-pin does inspire confidence, especially if the stone is five-carat or more."

"My secretary, Lavinia, keeps me in good working order; she'll always give my shoes an extra shine before I go off to an important lunch and keeps a supply of spare shirt buttons on her computer console."

"It's girls like Lavinia that keep the City ticking over. Sadly, she's a dying breed. Some of the young women who apply for jobs here are totally useless. Can't sew on buttons, can't be trusted to go out and buy your wife an anniversary present, can't even make a decent cup of coffee."

"I don't know what the secretarial schools are teaching them these days."

To what does Calculating attribute his stunning rise from nightclub bouncer to chief executive, all by the age of 27? "Luck, mainly," he says modestly. "The turning point in my career came when Lord Lushly, founder of Lushly's Falloff Lorries Ltd, came storming into the golf club because his partner had inconsiderately had a fatal heart attack at the ninth hole."

"I took his place and as a thank-you gesture his lordship gave me his daughter to marry. It all sort of took off from there."

Had he ever thought of learning Japanese or creating a computer learning system like Jennifer Court-Clay, the subject of *Working Woman* magazine's first profile? "I think we can safely leave that sort of thing to the ladies. God bless 'em," he said with a twinkle.

Correction: Insecticide shampoos should not be used as a preventive measure against head lice (Medical Briefing, October 5).

BATH OLIVER CRISIS ENDS

AS YOU MAY KNOW, there has been the most frightful rumpus since last Christmas.

Queues have formed at Fortnums, angry words have been heard at Harrods regarding the virtual impossibility of buying Bath Olivers.

Without further hesitation, we do want to apologise to you the dear public and the loyal retail trade for this unholy mess.

The plain fact is, it was entirely our fault. No one else should shoulder a scrap of blame.

You see, when we at Nabisco acquired the Bath Oliver we were painfully aware that we had assumed custody of a national treasure.

The responsibility of ensuring continuity of supply for future generations weighed heavily upon us.

Accordingly, we decided, in our wisdom, to shift production to our more modern and efficient bakery at Bermondsey.

It just goes to show you shouldn't try and improve on the traditional way of doing things in a great rush of enthusiasm.

To cut a long story short, it has taken us until now to get the Bath Oliver makers up to speed in the new location.

Not since Doctor William Oliver invented our revered product in the middle of the 18th century, has demand so outstripped supply.

We sincerely hope it will be as long before anything of the kind occurs again.



THE TIMES DIARY

Blowing the whistle

Leslie Curtis, chairman of the Police Federation, received help in drafting his controversial speech last week which claimed the Labour conference had "indulged in an orgy of police bashing" and doubted whether the police could work properly under a Labour government. The help came not from Tory Central Office, as one might suspect, but from a Labour member of the GLC. His name is Tony Judge, and he is the federation's PRO. It was "a mutually collaborative effort", admits Judge, but he denies there is any conflict of loyalty: "I seem to be the one member of the party who actually espouses police causes". He deplores picket line violence, resents Labour's depiction of the police as "hugs and fascists" and is "appalled that it is virtually impossible to get a hearing for the police inside the Labour party". There is "a case to be made for the police", he says, "and I am proud to be able to make it".

Home truth

Niall Sookoo, a delegate from Lewisham East, would not tell the Labour conference on Friday the name of a Labour MP he accused of having business links with South Africa, despite the promptings of conference chairman Eric Heffer. All he would say is that the name appeared in a recent *Times* article. No wonder he is reticent. The MP is his own John Silkin, chairman of a company called Arena Consortium which, as I revealed in the Diary on July 31, has bought control of Wembley Stadium with money borrowed from Standard Chartered Bank. Standard, which also advises Arena, is one of South Africa's big two banks and regularly has dealings with the Pretoria government. According to Sookoo, any MP with South African links should resign immediately - which would at least solve Silkin's desecration problems.

Combined op

There will be no peace for delegates to this week's Tory conference. Appalled that there will be no specific debate on nuclear weapons, CND plans to attack from land, sea and air. At different times a light aircraft trailing the slogan "Trident Would Cost Us the Earth" will buzz Brighton seafront, a 100ft "submarine" daubed "Trident Is Sinking" will rise from the sea opposite the conference centre, and Bruce Kent will lead his troops to a rally by the Palace Pier. At the latter CND will unveil the latest addition to its armoury: Air Commodore Alastair Mackie, CBE, DFC, a convert making his first appearance on a major CND platform.

Unneeded

There is more than meets the eye in the decision to include a debate on heroin and solvent abuse on the Tory conference agenda this week. I am told that the agenda sub-committee was hoping to provoke Marc Glendenning, the embarrassingly right-wing chairman of the Federation of Conservative Students, into a damaging public statement of his libertarian belief that heroin should be legalized. The committee will be disappointed. Glendenning will not be flushed out. He tells me he finds the subject dull and would prefer to talk about Ulster.

BARRY FANTONI



"It's times like these that sustain one in one's lack of faith"

Very waggish

The Arts Council refuses suggestions that it is going to the dogs. Indeed, it has just banned the creatures from its Piccadilly headquarters after an employee was bitten by one. This has pleased neither literature director Charles Osborne nor personnel director Carol Harris because their dogs - Asta and Archibald - were wont to accompany them to work. "It's very unfair," growled Osborne. "Everyone loved Asta. He was known as William - Rees-Dogg because of his impeccable manners."

Spot luck

Are Arthur Scargill's supporters the subject of covert surveillance by Government agencies? One of Mr Thatcher's special advisers at No 10 had the bright idea of attending a miners' rally in London to assess for himself Scargill's charisma and the men's mood. Disguised as a theatrehand NUM supporter, he duly mingled and made mental notes. The next day he was summoned by the Downing Street "spotter", informed he had been "spotted", and given a Thatcher-style dressing down for irresponsibility. "Anyone would have thought I'd been there to assassinate Scargill, not listen to him," the culprit confessed. PHS

Blighted hope that must be revived

by Jamie Stevenson

Most Tories believe one of the Thatcher Government's key achievements has been council house sales. By the next general election, well over a million council tenants will have bought their homes. The number of council tenants will have fallen from a third to a quarter of the population.

These statistics are applauded at Tory party conferences. But many involved in housing - of all political views - believe the Government's housing policy is not the unparalleled success it is claimed to be.

At this year's conference, questions will be asked about the 5.5 million council dwellings still unsold. A motion will be proposed, and almost certainly carried, urging the Government to do something about the vast acreage of unsaleable council flats. For there is clear concern that housing policy should do more than convert existing tenants into home owners; it should also provide better homes for tomorrow's households.

The 1983 Tory manifesto talked about making Britain "the best housed nation in Europe," implying expenditure on home improvements and new homes. The money does not have to come out of the public purse. Council house sales wrinkle out private money not just for purchase but maintenance and improvement.

Generous improvement grants in Sir

Geoffrey Howe's 1982 Budget set off a renovation boom at a time when the sale of new homes was shooting ahead. Yet overall, total investment in housing in the past five years is 30 per cent lower than a decade ago.

That statistic highlights the plight of tenants stranded in unsaleable tower blocks, many in run-down inner-city areas. Conservatives know they cannot leave this problem untouched. Whoever was responsible for putting them up, the Government has a residual responsibility for dealing with such a massive social disaster.

The Chancellor's spending squeeze effectively rules out greater public spending, so the Government's formula has inevitably lain in private enterprise. Construction companies, in small numbers, have been encouraged to convert the blighted blocks into attractive homes. This can work with stunning success. In Minster Court, Liverpool, buyers rushed for well landscaped flats in what had been a vandalized estate.

Projects like that create further success. An enterprise was started last year to convert the 3,500-dwelling Cantrill Farm estate, near Merseyside, into an attractive village, with banks, building society, builder and Labour borough in enthusiastic partnership.

Then came the imposition of VAT on building extensions and refurbishment. In

his enthusiasm for tax reform, the Chancellor stopped the Government's inner-city home ownership drive in its tracks. Private developers buying blighted council estates for improvement immediately suffered a 15 per cent addition to their costs. These schemes always had low margins and high risk. The VAT decision finally tipped the scales against them.

Ironically, the Treasury actually set the new VAT technical rules to favour local authorities rather than private developers, permitting local authorities to recover all their VAT costs on redevelopment. The new imposition is a death blow to private enterprise involvement.

Public money will be needed to make private inner-city refurbishment schemes viable again. Conservative distaste for words like "intervention", "grant" and "pump-priming" will have to be disregarded. Projects will either have to be funded directly through local authorities who recover VAT or additional development grants will be required to attract more private capital into this previously blighted market.

The author is director of economic and political affairs at the Building Employers Federation.

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Sarah Hogg urges a radically new outlook by a Cabinet going stale

Wanted: less secrecy, new ideas



Lawson: in need of advice. Young: can he deliver?

Cast your mind back six months. Nigel Lawson was on the crest of the wave of enthusiasm that greeted his first Budget. Sir Geoffrey Howe, his predecessor, was labouring under the unwelcome burdens of foreign affairs and the depressing recollection that as Chancellor he never had it so good.

The wicked impermanence of politics almost inevitably decreed that come the Conservative party conference the Hero of Hongkong should be riding high, while his successor at the Treasury should be in difficulties. The Tory party as a whole, however, should address itself to a more serious issue than the sea-sawing reputations of its two top ministers, and that is its excessive dependence on the Chancellor and his Treasury team to generate the radical new policies needed.

To some extent, this was inevitable. In office, and still more in a second term of office, advisory talent becomes absorbed into the machinery of government. The inclusion of David Young in the cabinet is a sublime example of the government urge to draw in advisers rather than open up public discussion. Party research departments wither in office, or attach themselves to the lifeblood of official business.

It is, just the same, a dangerous trend. Lawson has marked himself down as a chancellor who believes in a whole variety of micro-economic improvements as the route to economic revival: higher output and employment. The dire unemployment figures and signs of weakness in the output recovery suggest that if he is to prove his point, he had better start travelling rather fast.

But what does Lawson's micro-economic revolution add up to? We know, of course, that he is concerned to widen the Government's attack on wage costs. Even after allowing for inflation wages have been rising faster than the underlying increase in productivity in the economy as a whole, which Lawson sees as a brake on employment.

Beyond the normal autumn exhortation, intended to influence the climate of the new pay round, David Young has obviously been drawn in from the Manpower Services Commission to the heart of government to propose specific measures designed to lower employment costs - particularly the cost of employing the young. But what is the Chancellor's role in all this?

Occasionally it does become clear that something is hatching in Great George Street. We know that the Chancellor needs to find a new way of stimulating recovery, short of overt reflation. A fall in interest rates this week would certainly cheer

up the Tory conference, and make Lawson's autumn economic forecast look brighter; but as a tool of expansion it has proved unreliable, easily bent by international forces outside Lawson's control.

So, for his 1985 Budget, the Chancellor needs an addition to the list of indirect stimuli used by this government, such as the abolition of hire purchase controls or the change in capital allowances. At the same time, he must live up to his infant reputation as a tax-reforming Chancellor. Discussion of both these issues is likely to be withdrawn further and further behind the walls of pre-Budget secrecy by a government neurotically determined to prevent a repetition of last year's leaks.

This anxiety is misplaced. After the event, it became clear that rumours of tax changes had not had a significant effect on financial behaviour, the usual reason for condemning Budget leaks. Trouble could anyway be avoided by early publication of a range of options; and before Lawson embarks on wholesale reform of VAT or income

tax, that is precisely what he should provide.

At present, he is getting the worst of all worlds. His own public answers, which talk vaguely of the need to improve labour and product markets, sound ludicrously thin. At best, they seem to consist of a post-hoc justification of the Government's privatization programme, or coded support for the battle against union power - all very well in its way, but not precisely pregnant with promise of future action.

Meanwhile, stories abound of wicked Treasury plots to tax this and that. Take, most significantly, the question of the taxation of child benefit. This should form part of a major overhaul of the overlapping tax and social security systems - a prime target for Lawson's reforming zeal. Such revision as is actually going on, however, is being done by the Department of Health and Social Security and is mainly designed to achieve a more streamlined version of the existing benefits system. The Treasury cannot inject the odd tax notion into this process without provoking ill-informed public resist-

ance. It should be the lead manager of reform.

But that means preparation of something more than a Budget secret or two: a full-scale green paper on taxation and benefit reform. Such was the method by which Lord Barber progressed, in the early 1970s, towards a tax-credit system - the most under-appreciated initiative of the ill-fated Heath government.

Since the early 1970s, both fashions and finance have changed; and Lawson's income tax reform should be very different, directed particularly towards the enhancement of work incentives. Yet today's Tory party seems singularly lacking in radical reformers urging wholesale change on the Chancellor. In part this is because the defeat of the Tories in the macroeconomic battle of the early 1980s has turned the traditionally radical wing of the Tory party from the initiation of ideas to the obstruction of a government it mistrusts. We are therefore left to rely too much on the part-exhausted energies of an administration retreating into second-term secrecy.

everything looks promising, the curtain could go up in London or Broadway by the end of 1985 - "that's the quickest we could do it. We have to find a production staff, stars, a theatre."

The end product may bear little resemblance to the present outline. Rice says that "a fair bit" of *Evita* was changed before the opening. After the response to the records and the live performances is assessed, the odds must be that *Chess* faces the prospect of heavy reworking.

"We're totally flexible - we're not saying this is *Chess* and it cannot be changed. You could not stick it on stage as it is at the moment."

The idea of a stage musical about a chess match written by an Englishman and two Swedes and backed, initially, by a Scandinavian car firm, sounds a bit off beam. But who would have thought there was a half-million pound international hit in the story of the wife of a South American dictator?

Chess will need a hit single early on, and it might well have one. Some of the songs drifting out of Rice's office stereo bear the Abba hallmarks, notably a duet between Barbara Dickson and Elaine Page which could almost have been the Scandinavian group itself, short of its Euro-pop accent. Rice is anxious to point out that other numbers bear no resemblance. What do they sound like? "You would guess they are by an excellent composer who had heard Abba."

David Hewson

Anne Sofer

Why the non-black blacks are right

Those of us who have left the Labour Party in the last five years derived a special enjoyment from the Blackpool spectacle last week. "Just think," someone remarked, "if only we'd played our cards right we could have been there now!" And an appreciative guffaw went up. Where in the world would we rather not be than back in that comradeship-bashing, leader-bashing, yab-bashing, yab-bashing, yab-bashing bedlam?

But the knocking copy has already been written and readers will have had a bellyful of Sunday paper "Whither Labour?" think pieces. I intend to leave all that on one side and concentrate on the one really good debate that took place, that on "black sections", and the various constitutional proposals to guarantee black representation within the Labour Party structure. The debate - largely presented by blacks and Asians on both sides of the argument - had a relevance well beyond the Labour Party itself: it was about how we, as a nation, see ourselves as a multi-racial society.

The speakers against black sections - who won by a large majority - spoke the language of integration, harmony, unity, minimization of difference. They had all achieved status, as councillors and trade union office holders, within the Labour Party as it was, and felt insulted by the proposal that special arrangements should be made for them because of skin colour, and suspicious at any hint that they should give differential loyalty to the black community. They spoke with authority and self-confidence and they looked like what they were, pillars of a multi-racial society.

They probably gave to the largely white television audience a friendly, warm, approving feeling, not untouched with complacency. All of them, interestingly, came from outside London - a fact that elicited a sharp anti-London libe from one. (Nothing could have given a stronger impression of black integration than to hear the classical national conference taunt of "All-you-trendy-Londoners-thinking-you-run-the-country".)

By contrast, the speakers for black sections spoke like frustrated outsiders. They wore T-shirts with slogans and their average age was a good 10 years younger than their opponents: most of them - yes, it is true - came from London and spoke in born-British London accents; but their message for that largely white audience out there was not comfortable at all. It was a stream of accusation - oppression! racism! betrayal! - Only through separate organizations and separate rights of representation, they felt, would they ever get justice.

Any Londoner active in politics

or community affairs is aware of this rising separatist tide, not just among black activists but in other sections of the community too. It is a tendency that is both encouraged and exploited by the London left who hope to harness to their cause the frustration of the various groups. Their calculation, that people are most easily politicized through their own identification with an oppressed group, may in the end produce a political style that is less like a lady in a pink tutu effortlessly controlling eight-circus horses while she performs acrobatic feats, than a terrified ringmaster holding on for dear life as he tries to ride several tigers.

The problem with separatism is that those it attracts often have an insatiable appetite for it. A women's centre, for instance, setting up a separate "women's space", finds that a lesbian faction within it, crying "heterosexist intimidation", demands a separate lesbian space, only to encounter black lesbians crying "racism", who insist on meeting separately, and so on...

Despite that, and my gut-reaction prejudice against separatism and preference for the sober-suited advocates of integration, I have to admit that the "black sections" proponents have a point. From their point of view, the Labour Party constitution is no different from any other manifestation of institutional racism (like the Civil Service or the judiciary) in that it makes it effectively impossible for black people to arrive at the top within the near future. With white men, for historical reasons, dominating Parliament and the unions, and with the PLP and the unions dominating the National Executive Committee, what hope is there - without special arrangements - of seeing a non-white face on the conference platform before the end of the century? There comes a point where the juxtaposition of anti-discriminatory rhetoric and discriminatory appearance produces such anger and suspicion that the arrangements that perpetuate it have to be changed.

In the SDP, our first round of elections to the National Committee, two years ago, produced a membership which was - in race if not yet in sex terms - representative of the whole population. We like to think that this was as a result of the natural operation of a postal ballot, one member one vote, and proportional representation. Whether our present round of elections gets it right again remains to be seen. If it does not, I hope we will do something about it more quickly than the Labour Party appears willing to.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

Howard Jacobson

A good time now you've gone

They have gone! Not just the height-of-season marauders from the North, the Visigoths and Vandals with their brute insatiable young - most of those have been gone for a whole month - but the September people, the childless couples, the honeymooners, the runaways, the claustrophobes and misanthropes, the gradient-starved Dutch, the marvellous Australians (always uncertain as to whether Cornwall is still England), the erotic pilgrims, the literary junkies (high on topography and allusion), and those who cannot afford to be recognized, the rectors of theological colleges and presenters of children's television programmes, conspicuous in dark glasses and low company. Gone - the lot of them - more austere breed of visitor in climbing boots and rucksacks, too poor to buy anything, too principled, and too encumbered. Once they have arrived the season can be accounted over.

So what damage has been done? Despite the warnings of the National Trust who would like to close all but the middle of the country to holidaymakers, the cliffs are still here. Those firms which run to the very edges of the land have not yet crumbled into the sea under the weight of tourism. And the worms haven't been trampled to death either, thanks partly to their having spent the dry summer buried deep.

Like the rest of us, in search of some refreshment. But as ever it is the human cost that must be counted, and as ever that has been high.

I am not referring now to the merely occupational hazards of seasonal business, such as the uncontrollable shaking of the hands which every year at this time afflicts the village potter, or the arthritic seizure of the joints which enforces a six months' winter recuperation in Samoa on the candy floss spinner. I myself, come to that, have almost lost the power of speech after a summer spent explaining that there is no castle, that the water wheel doesn't turn anything, and that the next bus out won't be for another fortnight - but I wouldn't complain. Not when there is so much more serious suffering all around me.

"Think of Jean and Arthur," I tell the juddering potter, in the hope of bringing him some comfort. "They've served fifteen thousand cream teas in the last four months. That's fifteen thousand each of cups, saucers, spoons, plates, and teaspoons that they've washed. That's thirty thousand sponges they've baked. It's no wonder they're splitting up."

I try counselling a potter. "I've thrown a hundred thousand mugs myself," he tells me.

For a moment I think he is alluding to imminent destruction. Then I remember potter's patiois. I shrug. If we are merely going to

compete over numbers I am perfectly prepared to enter the lists with how many times I was asked whether the village letter box was ever emptied. But he is not finished. "Do you know, they watch me at the wheel for hours, up to my elbows in clay, and then, before they buy, they want to know if I make the pots myself."

It's not just the potter; there is reason to believe that the imbecility of the English holidaymakers is on the increase. Three times in August I was asked whether the harbour was at the top of the hill or at the bottom. "Do the tides come in or out on this coast?" asked another.

But the most startling examples of deterioration in the nation's mental health have been observable in the humdrum area of daily commercial transaction. No one who has worked behind a counter for more than five minutes can be in any doubt as to the essentially hysterical nature of shopping; leaving aside need, there are only three motives for spending money: marital spite, *tedium vitae*, and a desire (no sooner satisfied than regretted) to establish relations with the shopkeeper. All this is well known, especially to those who make their living selling trinkets and gewgaws by the seaside.

What is new, though, is the rate at which these neurotic purchases are now being returned. Almost everything that has been bought back here this year has been brought back. Some of us have even taken to refunding money on used postcards: if the customer's family doesn't like the view, who are we to argue? The feeling in the village is that 1985 will see the regurgitation of the cream tea, three days after ingestion, as the latest weapon in the consumer's battle never to have to pay for what he might no longer like.

How far this is responsible for the number of business couples now seriously discussing separation, it is difficult to say. A good season can be as much a marriage breaker as a poor one. There is nothing like too much money or too little for turning the thoughts of chefs and hoteliers to higher things.

My own thoughts, now that the water in the harbour is getting higher and the more astute seabirds have hopped it to a warmer place, are turning increasingly to the recreations of the city. This is supposed to be the time of year when one has endured all summer, retaining the valley and the lanes and of course the cliffs, before they finally do shave off into the Atlantic. But I have a yen to get back among the pressing crowds. The country in winter is no place to keep one's hand in at misanthropy.

The author runs a Cornish craft centre and tea-shop. His novel, *Peeping Tom*, is published by Chatto and Windus (£8.95).

Gambling on a £425,000 opening gambit

Hit musicals rarely enter the world perfectly formed. To take only one example, *On Your Toes* was falling to pieces on a North American tour in the 1930s when Rodgers and Hart called in George Abbott, one of Broadway's greatest stage medics, to put it back together.

A new work by Tim Rice, Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus - the latter pair are the male half of the Swedish pop group Abba - takes the better-late-than-never notion further than normal.

An on-the-road tryout for *Chess*, the story of an East-West confrontation between two grandmasters, begins at the Barbican on December 27. In the space of six days, it will involve transporting the London Symphony Orchestra, a 50-piece choir, rock band, and three lead singers, among them Elaine Page, to Paris, Amsterdam, Hamburg and Stockholm.

The economics are even more daunting. The one London concert has been sold out on the strength of a small ad; but even if every seat is sold on the continental tour, the exercise stands to lose £425,000.

Rice and his Swedish colleagues are, of course, wealthy men. Rice's most recent musical, *Blondie*, written with Stephen Oliver, may have collapsed in the West End earlier this year £400,000 in the red - Rice personally losing £50,000 - but that one flop is unlikely to worry the writer of *Evita* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

As for Andersson and Ulvaeus, they, with the female half of Abba, have regularly tied with Volvo for



Rice: 'No money in touring unless you're a one-man band or playing Vegas'. Right, lead singer Elaine Page

the title of Sweden's top foreign currency earner. Even so, they and Rice have spent £400,000 on making the two-record album of *Chess* and could be forgiven for thinking that should be the limit of their financial exposure at this stage.

Enter the unlikely figure of Saab-Scania, the car and aerospace company, which has announced it will make up every penny of the expected £425,000 loss.

"Without Saab, we couldn't have done it," says Rice. "We wanted to hear the show performed live before an audience, but the cost would have been too much. You can't really make money out of touring unless you're a one-man band or you're playing Vegas."

Commercial sponsorship of opera and orchestral concerts has become commonplace, but in Europe, anything with a "pop" label is generally ignored - unlike the US, where *The Who* and the Rolling Stones have made sponsored tours.

So what's in it for Saab? "I think they're making some sort of thrust with a new car and are taking a small proportion of the tickets to be given to people they want to impress."

Chess is being launched on the same lines as *Evita*. Records will be released to gauge the public's reaction and to arouse interest. Only then will a search for backers begin and a stage cast be assembled.

Rice believes that *Chess* will know its fate shortly after Christmas. If





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OPPORTUNITY MISSED

Public horse-trading of the sort that led to Friday's skimpy White Paper on airline competition policy invites the kind of cynical immediate response it has received. Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Secretary, was caught between conflicting demands for greater long-term competition and for the speedy privatization of British Airways at a good price. He has made little attempt to disguise his capitulation in the face of the powerful practical and political arguments and much skilful and insistent lobbying on behalf of British Airways. Mr Ridley and his officials have instead attempted to achieve by other means the main intentions of the boost to competition promoted by the Civil Aviation Authority in a study the Transport Secretary himself commissioned last December.

Even on the test of fulfilling the main aims of the CAA report however — and these intentions have the full backing of the Transport Secretary — the White Paper proposals emerge as little more than a superficial sop to competition, enough for political speechwriters to claim action but probably not enough to achieve any lasting benefits of greater competition to consumers.

By far the most solid action is to transfer highly profitable monopolistic Saudi Arabian routes from British Airways to British Caledonian in exchange for unprofitable or as yet unexploited routes. This benefits up British Caledonian financially, answering the CAA's aim of building an alternative world-scale airline, without cutting British Airways' route structure, which accounts for four fifths of scheduled services. However, the change will if anything narrow British Caledonian's potential

and make its higher profits more vulnerable. Moreover, an integral part of the CAA's plan was to enhance the role of Gatwick, British Caledonian's base, to act as an alternative hub-and-spoke network in competition with BA's base at Heathrow. The White Paper proposals will rather detract from it.

This hub-and-spoke idea, so central to encouraging international airline competition in the United States, lay behind the CAA proposal to transfer BA's international flights from the leading provincial airports to other independent airlines. Instead the White Paper compromise envisages British Airways subsidizing such airlines with facilities and £7 million of cash to develop new international routes. This is an extraordinary proposal, confirming the other independents as mere tick birds riding on BA's back and acknowledging its ability to generate monopoly profits.

But the Transport Secretary also faced provincial opposition to BA's withdrawal. The more vociferous pressure groups clearly valued the status of BA international flights and existing jobs higher than the stopper placed by BA dominance on the potential but uncertain emergence of Manchester and Birmingham as more than tertiary international airports. The test will come in arguments over the third London airport, to which BA is implacably opposed. Only in the unlikely event of BA switching from its championship of a fifth terminal at Heathrow to further development of Birmingham and Manchester, will BA's present victory be justified.

The one area in which the White Paper proposals fully agree with the CAA is in the need for experimental deregulation

of UK domestic air fares and new provincial routes. But the CAA is now doubtful. Given the failure to curb British Airways dominance, it believes deregulation might actually hinder long-term competition.

The White Paper proposals fail on the test of promoting long-term competition. They represent another opportunity lost in the cause of maximizing the proceeds of privatization almost exactly in the manner of the new rules for British Telecom.

There seems no reason to doubt Mrs Thatcher's and therefore the Cabinet's genuine desire to enhance competition within the economy in order to improve efficiency and consumer choice. But the rhetoric is becoming more empty. This is most noticeable in the privatization programme, but also in the narrow Whitehall interpretation of the revised guidelines to judge mergers on a more purely competitive test. Priority for competition seems reserved for situations where there is a likely benefit to the government revenue or expenditure as in bus subsidies, warship-building, National Health Service or local authority procurement. The taxpayer as individual consumer is still subordinated to the corporatist principle of giving successful commercial organizations a free hand.

It is not too late to bring a more balanced sense of priorities to implementing the privatization programme. At present, the Treasury view dominates from its central position dealing with a variety of sponsoring departments. A small central co-ordinating body involving outside industrialists as well as a spread of departmental ministers could bring more consistent industrial and competitive tests.

HERR HONECKER'S GERMANY

As the troops and bands and slogan-chanting crowds marched through the centre of East Berlin this weekend to celebrate the thirty-fifth anniversary of the German Democratic Republic, one spectator recalled the wry remark of a Polish intellectual: "The Poles will subvert any system, but the Germans will make any system work." East Germany is closer than any other East European State to a working model of the Marxist Leninist system. Indeed in some respects it is closer than the Soviet Union.

The Socialist Unity Party practises "democratic centralism" while playing "a leading role" in society very much as Lenin ordered. Agriculture is fully collectivized. Industry is still largely run by Soviet-type central command planning, rather than Hungarian-style decentralized enterprise. And yet it works.

Whether because of its system, as Herr Erich Honecker claimed on Saturday, or in spite of its system, as most western economists argue, East Germany is today among the world's top ten industrial nations. The official claim of 5 per cent growth this year is certainly exaggerated, but the GDR has apparently managed to maintain the levels of supplies to its own consumers, despite increased demands from Comecon, higher Soviet prices for energy and raw materials, and heavy hard currency debt repayments to the West. This is one reason why the Honecker regime enjoys a degree of popular acceptance which its

Polish neighbour can only dream of. But it is not the only reason. This weekend the GDR has been remarkably free with its use of the adjective "German" in striking contrast to a decade ago when the word was almost banned from the official vocabulary. Erich Honecker used the phrase "on German soil" no less than five times in his keynote speech. The famous equestrian statue of Frederick the Great is back on Unter den Linden and even Otto von Bismarck has been partially rehabilitated.

The state appeals to its citizens as consumers, but also increasingly as Germans. Clearly this is a dangerous game, since to the West there is another Germany, more prosperous and free, about which most East Germans are well informed. But in pointing eastward, the regime can successfully appeal to national pride.

Even the casual visitor to East Germany often leaves with the impression that it is somehow "more German" than the Federal Republic. And there are aspects of this persistent Germanism in social life and political culture as well as in outward appearances which work to the advantage of the party-state.

All generalizations about national character are dangerous, but few people would dispute that the popular aspiration to democracy and self-government has been less prominent in German history than in for example, French or Polish history. The Honecker regime can and does constantly appeal to

such traditional Prussian virtues as discipline, hard work, punctuality and orderliness. While claiming to be the heir of all the revolutionary democratic and pacific heroes of German history (a very thin red line), the GDR actually draws much of its strength from the other, conservative, undemocratic and militaristic part of its German heritage.

Yet for all its economic success, increased self confidence, and qualified historical legitimacy, the GDR remains painfully insecure. Even as the regimented masses in East Berlin swore loyalty to their Socialist fatherland some 90 East Germans were huddled in the West German Embassy in Prague, desperately asserting their right to leave that fatherland. The Berlin Wall remains the world's most devastating symbol of a state's fear of its own people. And even the head of state cannot travel freely to the West. The man to whom he awarded the Karl Marx Order on Saturday, with protestations of eternal gratitude Andrei Gromyko, was probably instrumental in stopping Herr Honecker's planned visit to West Germany in the larger interests of Soviet foreign policy. Herr Honecker must know that the aspirations of his government are still far from identical with those of its citizens on the one hand and of its Soviet protectors on the other. So East Germany remains at once the most stable and the most insecure of the states of the Soviet bloc.

FREE TRADE IN ART

The British Museum has been given a lot of stick for failing to match the asking price of £5,300,000 for 70 drawings from the Chatsworth collection which were then sold at auction for £21,000,000. It is always galling to turn down the chance to get some desirable object for a quarter of what it afterwards turns out to be worth in a freemarket. If the BM were an institution situated a mile to the east, say, Lombard Street its directors would be kicking themselves all the way to the bank.

But the museum is not that kind of an animal. It is there to gather, conserve and display collections, not to amass financial assets. The 70 drawings, which had to be taken all or none, included some that would have enhanced the museum's already sumptuous collection of old master drawings, which, taken with other inalienable collections in the country, are of unparalleled quality. The Chatsworth offering en bloc was, in a hard sense, surplus to the museum's requirements. The five-and-a-quarter million pounds it is believed to have been prepared to go to is three

times the whole of its annual purchase grant, which has to do for all of the museum's different kinds of collections. It was being assisted by the National Heritage Memorial Fund. But the fund is not bottomless and it, too, has many calls upon it. The decision to break off negotiations, though based on expert appreciation of the market that proved spectacularly wrong, was a perfectly sensible one.

There are now calls for a review of the whole system of controlling the export of works of art. The principle of the system, which goes back to the Waverley committee that reported soon after the war, is to interfere with free trade only if a foreign bid or offer can be matched in value from a domestic quarter, and for long enough to establish whether a matching bid is forthcoming. The system is equitable and has been effective without being absolute. If it is now becoming overwhelmed by the new dollar and the wealth behind it, that is one of those facts of economic life that everyone is expected to recognize and adapt to.

In this connexion the word "heritage" needs to be re-exam-

ined. It is easy to see that the Chatsworth collection of old master drawings is part of the heritage of the Cavendish family. It is less easy to see that it is part of the heritage of the nation. Some objects unquestionably answer to that description: Stonehenge, York Minster, and at the more movable end of things the Crown Jewels, the Lincoln Magna Carta of 1215, the Stone of Scone, Turner's "Rain, Steam and Great Steam".

A new and stricter classification of "heritage" matter might be attempted, confined to things that are both of surpassing beauty, curiosity or interest and tied to these islands by origin, native genius or historical association. Most of it is either immovable or already in safe collections; and whatever is not would be unexportable by discretion exercised at the time. Other masterpieces not answering to those strict criteria could be sold abroad subject to the present restraints. Their loss can be viewed with more equanimity, especially if they go to public collections and especially now that people and works of art on loan move over the globe more freely than ever before.

Pooling resources for disaster relief

From Professor H. W. Singer and Dr J. Wood

Sir, Your October 5 edition ("Ethiopian drought puts half a million people under shadow of death") brings up yet again the plight of drought victims in Africa and the efforts of the Save the Children Fund and the UN World Food Programme to alleviate the suffering. However, these appeals have been recurring for some years now, touchingly couched in terms of suffering children.

Voluntary agencies such as SCF respond magnificently to the disasters once they are there, but their funds tend to dwindle when the worst is over — that is, just when follow-up and prevention are most needed. The UN developmental agencies have to wait for the often lengthy processing of government requests before much can be done. Is it not time that all these disparate packages were put together to do something about the type of problem recurrently arising in Ethiopia and elsewhere?

There are now too many cooks with too little broth — United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the Red Cross, bilateral agencies and a range of voluntary agencies. Has the time not come for the Government, which has already indicated support in principle to put its weight behind the recent World Bank proposals to create a special supplementary IDA fund for Africa that could enable a pooling of resources and of planning in an operational context, working closely with victims and potential victims of emergencies and all the various agencies?

Similarly, has the time not also come for Unicef, the World Food Programme, UN Disaster Relief etc. to be joining forces with IDA (International Development Association) in a single UN humanitarian agency, perhaps divested of some of the usual bureaucracy and as the counterpart of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund?

Yours faithfully,
H. W. SINGER,
The Institute of Development Studies,
University of Sussex,
Brighton, Sussex.

TV as teaching aid

From Mr Philip Simpson

Sir, The DES consultative document, *English from 5 to 16* (The Times, October 3), is to be commended for recognising that television, film and video are worth critical and evaluative attention not only as sources of information but also as entertainment. It is disappointing, though, that these are seen as objectives for the 16-year-old pupils only.

Last year another DES report, *Popular Television and Schooling*, pointed out that young people between five and 14 years of age spend an average of 23 hours per week watching television.

Television is worth the attention of teachers and pupils from at least the age of seven. It already provides "a normal and habitual source of pleasure, interest and information" which *English from 5 to 16* rightly sees as the desirable attitude to reading. Moreover, television might also be used throughout primary and secondary schooling to realise many of the listening, speaking and understanding objectives recommended in the document.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP SIMPSON,
Head of Education,
British Film Institute,
81 Dean Street, W1.

Slaughter on the wing

From Dr Denis F. Owen

Sir, I agree with your report (October 3) that it is disgraceful, now that Greece is an EEC member, that its migratory birds should continue to be shot and eaten. But before outright condemnation from our half a million bird watchers, should we not put our own house in order?

I do not mind the shooting of pheasants (which are aliens, anyway) and nor do I care if people want to slaughter the sedentary red grouse, but I am concerned about snipe, woodcock, widgeon and other migratory species all regarded (in season) as legitimate quarry.

Many of these birds breed in Sweden and other non-EEC countries to the north and east, where they are given full protection. These international migrants deserve full protection while here it matters not whether they are EEC born and bred.

So let us conserve all migratory birds, for then we would be in a much better position to criticise Greeks for eating night herons and nightingales.

Yours sincerely,
DENIS F. OWEN,
2 Sheffield Place,
Hedgeington, Oxford.

Soviet sea power

From Professor Colonel G. I. A. D. Draper

Sir, The editor of *Jane's Fighting Ships* (1975-76) has pointed out, and rightly, in his letter published on September 18, that he declined to accept the Soviet designation of his "large anti-submarine cruiser" when it should properly be considered as an "aircraft carrier". He then proceeds to make the contention that the Soviet designation "was probably aimed at circumventing the restrictions on aircraft carriers in the Montreux Convention (1936)." Perhaps he would indicate to your readers, Sir, where he finds such restrictions, which the USSR seeks to avoid, within the four corners of the Convention.

An analysis of the Convention discloses a major obscurity in this matter, brought about by the maladjustment of articles 10 and 11, and the definition of the six categories of warships to be found in annex 2 to the Convention. Indeed, this obscurity enables one Soviet commentator to state: "... a thorough analysis of the Convention shows... from a legal point of view, that passage through the straits by ships of states of the Black Sea does not contradict the letter and spirit of the Convention." (Sarkov, in *Morskoi Sbornik*, no 7 July, 1976).

Tory armoury to combat unemployment

From Sir Philip Goodhart, MP for Beckenham (Conservative)

Sir, You are right to say ("Action on jobs," October 5) that "Mr Lawson needs a new armoury of policies for unemployment". Some of these are outlined in the One Nation pamphlet, *Jobs Ahead*, which sets out a range of proposals that are consistent with the Government's medium-term economic strategy.

In fact, new jobs are being created, but they are being swamped by the number of extra school-leavers now entering the job market. As Mrs Thatcher has pointed out, in the next five years the number of new job seekers looking for employment will exceed the number of people reaching the retirement age by 500,000.

Even the Labour Party chief economic spokesman seems to recognize that just cutting the retirement age for men would add a substantial extra burden to the future cost of pensions.

What is needed is a voluntary retirement scheme, which could remain in force until the demographic tide changes (per cent. 65). The Government has already taken a tentative first step down this path with its job release scheme, but this is hedged round with too many restrictions.

The gross cost of a voluntary retirement scheme, which would ease 500,000 people out of employ-

ment or off the rolls of the unemployed, would be £1,250m, but the net cost would be very much lower.

At the same time, Nigel Lawson and Tom King have both stressed the importance of young people pricing themselves into the job market. The Government could make its own contribution to this by cutting the employers' National Insurance contribution for young workers under 20.

Nigel Lawson has already cut this tax on jobs in his first Budget. If we accept that youth unemployment is the major social problem which we face, it seems sensible to concentrate further cuts in the employers' contribution on young people.

But Nigel Lawson and Tom King are surely right to stress the importance of not pricing ourselves out of the market. As I note in *Jobs Ahead*, "in the period 1973-82, British industrial workers' real hourly earnings went up by 10 per cent and total British employment went down by seven per cent; simultaneously, in America industrial workers' real hourly earnings went down by 11 per cent and total American employment went up by 16 per cent." The lesson is plain.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP GOODHART,
House of Commons,
October 5.

Postal efficiency

From Mr A. A. Wells

Sir, Mr M. P. Thompson (September 22) finds figures quoted in earlier correspondence incredible and casts doubts upon their veracity.

For many years I have had wrongly delivered to this address letters from parts of the London W1, WC1, WC2 and SE17 postal areas. In no moment of irony there was delivered a letter for the district postmaster and on other occasions the sorting office delivery instructions and even a postman's pay slip.

It has been my practice to ask the local postmaster to collect this correctly addressed but wrongly delivered mail and I now ask for a receipt therefor, listing the letters collected, their contents, the date between July 24, 1983, and May 23, 1984, for 49 misdelivered letters.

On August 31, 1984, I wrote asking for letters wrongly delivered to be collected. The letter has been acknowledged by the district post office but no further action has been taken and still the letters continue to arrive. At the time of writing I have 24 correctly addressed but wrongly delivered letters awaiting collection. Is any further evidence of the Post Office's efficiency required?

Finally I ask the Post Office for replies to two questions which over the years it has been reluctant to answer:

Falashas' fate

From Dr J. R. Barrington Drewe

Sir, Your report (September 12) of the Falashas who are dying from tuberculosis, cholera and malaria in a refugee camp in east Sudan, belies the extent of a tragedy which is now entering its final stage.

The Falashas are pre-Islamic Jews, who before the coup of 1974 lived in small groups north of Lake Tana in the Ethiopian province of Begemdir and Simen, where they settled in the seventeenth century, after being expelled by the emperor Susenyos from Semien, an independent province.

Until the agricultural reforms of 1977, they were not allowed to own land and lived mainly by specialized crafts, such as ironwork and pottery; occupations despised by the Amhara-Tigre farmers, who make up most of the population in the Northern Highlands and whose resentment became intense when the reforms enabled Falasha men to own land.

In 1974 there were about 20,000

Falashas, but this number has now been greatly reduced by disease, famine and war, to the extent that they may soon cease to exist as a distinct ethnic group. The survivors cannot resume their traditional way of life in the Northern Highlands where there is fighting and although a number have emigrated to Israel, they face considerable problems in trying to adapt to modern life.

The immigration of Jews from the Diaspora has already led to serious political and economic problems in Israel, which does not have the resources to be responsible for still more refugees. The Falasha are often regarded as an anthropological curiosity (black Jews), but now they are on the brink of extinction it would surely not be too costly to provide the means whereby they could remain as an intact group, in Africa, and pursue their traditional way of life.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. BARRINGTON DREWE,
148 Willfield Way, NW11,
September 17.

History of the SOE

From Miss Jean Overton Fuller

Sir, It is indeed good the keeper of the SOE archive at the Foreign Office should have through your columns (September 28), entered into print, and so into controversy. Nevertheless, I am dismayed by his point that the security checks (upon the disregard of the omission of which criticism hangs) had been found "often unreliable".

In that case, why were they not stopped? The criticism turns upon the fact that the agents, before being sent out into the field, were told that if captured they should give their codes, but not their security checks, in absence of which would be sufficient to tell London they were in German hands, and yet London ignored that absence. But Mr Woods's theme puts me in mind of what Colonel Giskes said to me.

I asked him in 1955 what he believed to be the truth of the Englandspiel, he said he knew, no

more today than when he was running it — when at moments he would say to himself, "It is not possible British Intelligence is really deceived by me! They pretend to me they are deceived by me, for some deep, deep reason that escapes me..."

Then he said there was only one other explanation he could think of: lack of liaison between departments of it. Perhaps in one department they made the decision to ignore omission of security checks and forgot to cancel their instruction to another department to tell the agents, before they went out, that to omit their security checks was their one infallible means of telling London they were in German hands.

Is Mr Woods telling us that is in fact what happened?

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
JEAN OVERTON FULLER,
Steep House,
6 Church Lane,
Wymington,
Rushden,
Northamptonshire,
October 2.

The political reality is that Turkey, in spite of her Nato membership, is in no position to respond to Nato pressures to decline permission to Soviet requests for passage of aircraft carriers through the straits. Advances in naval design and armament make a nonsense of the categories of warship afforded by the Montreux Convention of 1936.

These factors, added to the legal obscurity, put Turkey in a position of great delicacy in making decisions on admittedly doubtful cases. Protests by the UK or other parties, are not likely to cure the present position.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
G. I. A. D. DRAPER,
16 Southover High Street,
Lewes,
Sussex,
September 22.

Due respect for peat bog man

From Dr Joan J. Taylor

Sir, Mr Ben Stocker (October 4) raises the question of what makes the disturbance of the dead respectable, and names the Lindow Moss body. In the instance of the Lindow Moss body, its age was not involved in the initial enquiry because its discovery during commercial peat-cutting and its unusual context alone in the middle of a peat bog initiated a forensic investigation.

There was a need to establish if a modern crime had been committed, and indeed violence occurred, but the elapsed time of 2,500 years allowed this unique body to be removed from the corner's jurisdiction into the hands of the physical anthropologists and the archaeologists, where investigation continues.

One applauds the full cooperation and collaboration of the forensic members of the team (the police detectives, Home Office paleontologist and coroner's radiologist and officer) with the archaeologists which was, in part, due to two fortuitous circumstances.

Mr Rick Turner, the county archaeologist for Cheshire, learned of the find of the foot and located the body before the police removed it, and the Home Office had involved Mr Bob Connolly, who also has wide experience with ancient bodies as well as modern. Mr Turner involved myself with a team trained in palaeo-environmental techniques by Professor Frank Oldfield.

This should result in the body being the most carefully documented of preserved prehistoric bodies in their ancient environment in Western Europe. But may I, at the same time, assure Mr Stocker that the body was not exhumed in the field, as I am sure that he will have read for himself, but was removed in a block of peat and accorded the same respect and mortuary accommodation that human remains in a modern forensic case receive. The proceedings since, which are the responsibility of the British Museum, are equally concerned and delicate.

Perhaps Mr Stocker is alarmed by the prospect of display, but the display of preserved bodies as a part of museum collections in the Western world has occurred in many from their inception, most commonly as Egyptian mummies. The British Museum will, I am sure, observe appropriate decorum while satisfying the public's natural curiosity about their ancestors' appearance before the Romans' arrival in Britain.

Yours faithfully,
JOAN J. TAYLOR,
The University of Liverpool,
Department of Prehistoric Archaeology,
14 Abercromby Square,
PO Box 147, Liverpool,
October 5.

Blackpool expulsion

From Lady Olga Maitland

Sir, I read with interest your report (October 5) covering the Labour Party's decision to ban me from the conference in my capacity as a journalist.

There appears to be confusion about the validity of my press pass in view of the fact I had been leafleting outside in the street on behalf of my organization, Women and Families for Defence.

I should make it clear that I had no intention of distributing any leaflets, while conducting my work as a journalist. I had none in my hand and made no attempt to do this in the building.

The reason why I was expelled was explained by the Chief Steward who admitted that while I had every right as an accredited journalist to be present, the delegates would not tolerate it because of my personal views on defence and disarmament. Labour Party representatives also told me that I was not welcome.

In addition the police said they could not guarantee either my safety or anybody else's if I insisted on returning. Rather than risk being responsible for any further rioting or possible injuries, I agreed to leave.

I find it saddening that mob rule makes the decisions for the Labour Party.

Yours sincerely,
OLGA MAITLAND,
21 Cloudeley Street, N1,
October 5.

Pride of place

From the Archdeacon of Westminster

Sir, I sympathize with Mr John Richards (October 3) for I am as much of an anachronism as he. But the curious behaviour to which he refers is no new thing, nor is it peculiar to this country.

In my former diocese in Africa a small village community of retired Army officers and their families shared our society. When in the neighbouring towns a gentleman was seen to open a car door for his lady before taking his seat at the wheel, the comment was often heard: "It's a new wife, or a new car, or he comes from Olotoloco".

Yours etc.,
EDWARD KNAPP-FISHER,
Little Cloister,
Westminster Abbey, SW1,
October 3.

From Mr David Hill

Sir, Getting in first oneself is male chauvinism. Unlocking the passenger door first is elaborate sexism.

The answer is clear: central locking.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HILL,
12 Harwood Road,
Marlow, Buckinghamshire.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Time for Britain to act on flourishing ECU

It is an odd experience to learn that any decision taken at the last six economic summits makes a jot of difference to the way the leading governments behave. Yet during the past month the Williamsburg communiqué has been elevated to an importance almost in keeping with its historic location - if, that is, one can believe the solemn pronouncements of American, German and British politicians and central bankers on the question of exchange-rate policy.

It is significant, perhaps, that the President of the German Bundesbank could not quite remember whether it was the Williamsburg or London economic summit which settled international intervention policy. But he was just as sure as everybody else that policy was. Central banks have agreed to intervene in concert - whenever markets become "disorderly".

Now this is just about the silliest definition of an exchange-rate policy for the world that one can imagine. Central bankers all know more or less what they mean by "disorderly markets" - ones which are so thin that small purchases or sales can produce violent currency movements. But what is the purpose of intervening to prevent this?

Sudden, erratic currency swings are precisely the means which markets catch out speculators: unless the central bank is particularly skilful (as, admittedly, the Bundesbank occasionally is), the usual consequence of putting the market to order is to save some speculator's bacon.

So what is the real objective of exchange-rate policy? Well, here the cracks appear in the Williamsburg line. The United States has a policy of doing as little as it can get away with without really angering the Germans. West Germany likes to try to stop its exchange-rate overshooting.

The British Government dislikes intervening, at least in public, but does not like the exchange rate to fall too far too fast, because the money markets react by putting upward pressure on interest rates. Since the Government is committed to the view that markets determine interest rates, it is then forced to validate the upward pressure - thus satisfying the markets that it correctly interpreted the likely result of a falling exchange rate in the first place.

Since the Bank of England got itself caught in this particular vicious circle in July, there has been much discussion of monetary techniques it could use to avoid a repeat. That still leaves open the question of the Government's fundamental policy with regard to sterling. The Thatcher government began life with a combination of sublime disregard, and a vague promise, to join the European Monetary System when the time was right.

These two contradictory statements soon began to curl at the edges. At first the exchange rate became acceptable as one of a range of monetary indicators; full membership of the European Monetary System, at the same time, was briskly defeated by the Treasury. But the turbulence in the foreign exchange markets, this past year, has increased worldwide desire for a more stable system; while most of the old arguments against membership of the European Monetary System have been losing their force.

The main arguments against full membership of the EMS are based on sterling's mid-Atlantic position. (Full, because of course Britain makes obeisance to the European idea by participating in the European Monetary Co-operation Fund, and sterling is in the "basket" of currencies which determine the value of the European currency unit). That is, sterling has tended to stay closer to the dollar than the Deutschmark has; thus linking the pound to the Deutschmark would tend to accentuate rather than damp down our movements against the world's most important currency.

Recently, however, the pound has begun to stick a lot closer to the Deutschmark. It is clear that if Britain were to negotiate a margin of 4 per cent for fluctuation (which is more than the limit allowed for the French franc and less than that allowed for the Italian lira), the Bank of England would have had little difficulty, this summer, in keeping within it; and the effort to do so would not have increased sterling's volatility against the dollar.

A second practical objection rested not on the Atlantic, but the North Sea. A petro-currency, it was thought, would have huge difficulty keeping in line with a bunch of oil-consuming economies. But this difficulty, too, has reduced as the oil levelled off; now the EMS is seen as a safe haven in which to manage the years of slow oil decline.

A third practical objection relates to the difficulty of linking two important currencies. The success of the existing EMS may depend on its dominance by the Deutschmark; add sterling, and more particularly add the London markets, and the strain would simply prove too much. The only answer to that is the surprising, and increasing strength of the EMS in locking together two such disparate currencies as the Deutschmark and the French franc, which has confounded pessimists (like myself) these past 18 months.

So much for practice: what about policy? The Government's increasing emphasis on sterling's trade-weighted exchange rate, with the aid of the new sterling index, stems from a desire to redirect attention away from the pound's value against the dollar.

But apart from the dollar and the yen (which displays its own peculiar vagaries) the hard core of the sterling index is made up of the European currencies. So it would make more sense still to focus attention on sterling's rate against the ECU.

There remain some powerful residual arguments against formal membership. We still do not understand financial behaviour well enough to manage a smoothly successful monetary policy; the thought of imposing another obligation in these circumstances, is more than a little daunting.

A sensible first step would be to elevate the ECU to greater prominence in the Government's public row of monetary indicators. In its own right, the ECU is growing in stature as an international currency, and that is a development the Bank of England has sensibly encouraged. It is time to take a further step.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

Equitable to launch six unit trusts

Equitable Life, the oldest and one of the largest life assurance companies in Britain, is to launch a fully-fledged unit trust operation before the end of the year.

Equitable has been slow to move into the market for unit-linked policies. Since 1969 it has run a single general unit trust, the Equitable Pelican Trust.

The company plans to launch at least six unit trusts covering

NEWS IN BRIEF

"the usual investment range", according to Mr Mark Daniel, the technical manager. This is likely to include income and capital growth funds in United Kingdom equities, a gilt fund and funds investing overseas.

● THE STOCK MARKET is wrong, to worry about the financing burden of the forthcoming British Telecom flotation, according to Wood Mackenzie, the stockbroker.

ORDINARY SHARES

Shrinking space for new brands

Tony Hollingworth

Manufacturers are increasingly conscious of the importance of strong brands in today's retail environment. Their chances of establishing new brands are diminishing and it is the consumer who is going to suffer. In July we suggested here that while a lot of lip service was paid to changing eating habits, and particularly healthier eating, the growing buying power of leading food retailers was making it difficult for manufacturers to cater for changing tastes. We expressed particular concern about the near impossibility of creating important new brands.

This Government appears to believe that increasing trade domination by a small number of retailers provides a consumer benefit in lower prices. The rapid development of the trade towards an oligopoly suggests that even this benefit may be short lived. Consumers may be paying lower prices, but margins earned by leading retailers have risen steadily.

The Office of Fair Trading is yet again investigating the extent to which present trends are, or are not, against the public interest. Few observers see any conclusions emerging which are likely to lead to legislation capable of arresting the present pace of change.

Manufacturers who complain about their difficulties will tacitly acknowledge they are frightened to argue their case in public for fear of retaliation from those powerful groups who represent the greater part of their business. In this context the consumer should start to worry about the longer term implications.

Present stocking and display policies are against consumer interest in that they represent a clear restriction of choice. Leading grocery multiples have recently adopted an aggressive stance towards the marketing of wines and spirits. Their success is well recognized.

In the last four years the multiples have increased their share of the take-home market from 28 per cent to 35 per cent. Recently we examined the shelf display of a leading retailer. In the spirit section about 80 per cent of space was allocated to the multiple's private label products with a range of sizes.

In the whisky section, only two leading brands featured, and in both gin and vodka only one big brand was stocked. In all cases the brands were allocated the least attractive

space on low shelves. This is what we mean by restriction of choice. In such an environment no important drink company could establish a new brand.

We mentioned this problem to a leading wine and spirit company which has successfully introduced new products in the last 10 years. The company acknowledged that it would be much more difficult, and perhaps even impossible, to create successful new products in today's conditions.

We believe it would be impossible simply because shelf space profitability is so crucial to the grocery trade that buyers just would not take the risk of giving new products a sufficiently long trial. Without such support the manufacturers obviously cannot risk the heavy promotional budgets required to establish a new product.

It is suggested that the confectionery market is one in which successful new brands can still be introduced. The case of Cadbury's Wispas is cited as an example.

We would also argue that confectionery is a perfect example of the importance of leading brands to food manu-

Stock Exchange chief calls for linking of EEC markets

By Jonathan Clare

Mr Jeffrey Knight, chief executive of the London Stock Exchange, has called for the linking of stock markets throughout the European Community to meet increasingly fierce competition from the United States and Far East.

"We in Europe have an ideal opportunity to find a niche in worldwide 24-hour trading of securities," Mr Knight told the Permanent Conference of European Chambers of Commerce in London, Friday.

"Europe is ideally placed in the time zone between the closing of the Far East markets and the opening of the North American ones; we must work to exploit that for if we do not, our capital markets will become increasingly irrelevant as trading, even in our own domestic stocks, migrates across the Atlantic or to the East."

Mr Knight believes the key to an internationally competitive European market is pooled resources and the linking of the various exchanges through a flexible communications network.

His proposals would not lead to an integrated European Stock Exchange, an idea extensively discussed by Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the EEC Commissioner, because the diverse markets could not be forced to become uniform.

The system would be based on the Idis project - the Interhouse Data Information Service - which was announced last February and has been designed to lay down a basic communications network, largely through existing telecommunications systems.

Initial testing of Idis between

two or three exchanges is about to begin and all the European exchanges should be linked by December.

Mr Knight said: "The time should not be far off when the London, Brussels, Frankfurt and Paris prices of Consolidated Goldfields or Commerzbank are equally accessible, indeed can be viewed together on one screen."

Idis will first display only historic price information on 200 shares but it is expected ultimately to display bid and offer prices so that trading can be carried out.

Mr Knight said: "It is not within the power of the stock exchanges to remove the really major obstacles. Only governments can make changes on exchange controls, fiscal policies or the regulations as to

where certain institutional investors may place their funds."

● The Bank of England is likely to have the right to appoint the chairman of a new City regulatory body, details of which are expected to be outlined by Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, in about two weeks.

Mr Tebbit hinted at a political meeting last week that he had decided what form regulation of the City should take. He is believed to favour a simplified regulatory structure rather than an American style Securities and Exchange Commission.

The DTI would hold the ultimate powers of regulation but they would be delegated to various City agencies. The Bank's position is intended to be one of influence rather than power.

Report hits merchant banks' role

By Our City Staff

Share prices of the merchant banks have taken a battering over the last few months because of the adverse reaction of the stock market to their wholesale entry into the securities industry, according to an annual report on the accepting houses by Laing & Cruickshank, the stockbrokers.

The report says that the merchant banks have bought stockbrokers close to the peak in their highly cyclical earnings "and certainly ahead of structural changes which will depress their profitability."

Laing & Cruickshank also says there is concern that the merchant banks and brokers do not have the skills required for market making and principal trading, "it is therefore acceptable that dual capacity trading will emerge from the Stock Exchange reforms, but this does not mean that novices endowed with capital will make profits."

The report adds a note of warning that there will be problems in merging "the different cultural backgrounds" of the merchant banks which are adverse to taking risks compared with share traders who are risk-takers.

It also points out that the merchant banks must always have expected these problems but that they have "always wanted to be a part of the securities industry rather than a mere associate kept out by the Stock Exchange cartel."

● Business and financial services should be one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy during the next decade, according to a Cambridge Econometrics forecast.

Brokers expect taxes to fall

The Chancellor will have room for significant personal sector tax cuts in next March's Budget, according to two teams of stockbrokers' economists.

The stockbrokers' firm Laing & Cruickshank expects that the autumn economic statement, due next month will retain the "implied fiscal adjustment" of £2 billion for 1985/86 laid down at the time of the last Budget. If however says that while such tax cuts will be presented in the statement as running alongside a declining public sector borrowing requirement, the reality is likely to be tax cuts and a rising PSBR.

James Capel the other team, shares the concern over public borrowing but says the relatively generous reserve - £2.75 billion in 1984/85 and £3.75 billion in 1985/86 - should leave scope for £1.5 billion of personal sector tax cuts.



Broad Sanctuary: 10-level conference centre near Central Hall and Westminster Abbey.

Government to hire out showpiece centre

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Britain's newest conference centre, a Government showpiece adjoining Parliament Square and Westminster Abbey in the centre of London, is to be opened to a wide range of private sector conferences.

There had been doubt that anything other than official conferences and meetings would be allowed in the centre, where high levels of security and the most modern information technology and communications equipment have been provided.

But there are now plans to step up marketing of the new centre to optimize its earnings.

One problem has been that Government needs for meetings and conferences, ranging from Nato gatherings to those involving EEC countries, can arise at short notice, upsetting private sector bookings made months or years ahead.

The new centre, known as Broad Sanctuary, is due to be handed over by the constructors in January 1986, with final fittings taking another two months.

Construction costs, at 1983 prices, could reach about £44m, with another £5m being spent on fittings.

£26m shops project hits snags

By Judith Hamley

The future of a £26m retail scheme at Welwyn Garden City railway station has become uncertain. Its developers, Slough Estates and Boskalis Keys and the British Rail Property Board are not going ahead with a planning application for the 200,000 sq ft scheme.

This follows Welwyn and Hatfield local council's decision to appoint Carroll Group to undertake a similar sized retail development a mile away at Hatfield.

The council decision has been attacked by Slough and Boskalis which argue that Carroll Group's development plan for retail and leisure activities at Hatfield will seriously affect the viability of their own scheme. But the council says that he schemes are not rivals.

Slough and Boskalis are now likely to wait for a possible decision by Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment, to call in the proposals for one or both schemes. If Mr Jenkin decides to do this on the grounds that Carroll Group's 200,000 sq ft development is a departure from the local structure plan, Slough and Boskalis will put in a formal application on a redesigned scheme.

Beryl seldom flares up

Beryl B, Mobil's newest North Sea oil production platform, doesn't go in for flamboyance. Instead of lighting the night sky with a fiery display from her flare stack, Beryl B plans on holding back the burning off of excess gas. There will, however, be more to Beryl's comparatively small flame than mere modesty.

The natural gas that bubbles to the surface with oil is far too valuable a commodity to waste on pyrotechnics. Instead, Beryl B will use that gas. Some of it will fuel the platform's new Rolls Royce-driven generators. These, in turn, are to run a compressor to force the gas back to the subsea wells under pressure of more than 5,000 pounds per square inch. There, the gas is going to help to force more oil to the surface than would otherwise be possible. And with that oil will come still more gas to continue the cycle.

From a fiscal point of view, every one percent increase in oil production in the North Sea brings about £80 million a year to the Exchequer. More importantly, though, gas injection as planned for Beryl B helps to conserve a significant energy source for future needs.

Of course, Beryl B won't be unique for the small size of her flame. Sister platform Beryl A's flare is already the picture of discretion. And so it should be. Seven years ago Beryl A was the British North Sea pioneer in gas injection and ever since she's led the field in gas conservation.

Even now, few of her neighbours can hold a candle to her.



Mobil Beryl B

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Oct 1, Dealings End, Oct 12, Contango Day, Oct 15, Settlement Day, Oct 22.
 * Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.
 (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

THE TIMES
Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
1	DRAPERY AND STORES				
2	Church	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
3	Gratton	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
4	Lincoln Kilgus	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
5	Wigfield (Henry)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
6	Eastover's Clothes	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
7	House of Fraser	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
8	Mark & Spencer	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
9	Emure Stores	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
10	Superdry Stores	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
11	ELECTRICALS				
12	Telephones Rentals	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
13	Cris Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
14	First Castle Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
15	Lee Refrigeration	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
16	Emas Lighting	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
17	Logica	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
18	Enrgy Serv	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
19	Farnell Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
20	INDUSTRIALS-Z				
21	SI	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
22	Telco	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
23	Wood (SW)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
24	Westland	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
25	Thomson T-line	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
26	Almco Eng	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
27	Saffs Parsons	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
28	Trucon	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
29	Smith Whitworth	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
30	Shah	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
31	TEXTILES				
32	Costa Patons	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
33	Gaskell Broadloom	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
34	Parkland 'A'	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
35	Clack (G)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
36	Clack (H)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
37	Solo Viscose	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
38	Novo Dierckx	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
39	Shaw Carpi	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
40	Dun Burt	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00

Weekly Dividend
 Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
Stock				

Stock	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
Stock				

Stock	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
Stock				

Stock	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
Stock				

Stock	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
Stock				

Stock	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
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Stock	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
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Stock	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
Stock				

Stock	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
Stock				

Stock	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
Stock				

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
1.00	Church	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Gratton	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Lincoln Kilgus	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Wigfield (Henry)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Eastover's Clothes	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	House of Fraser	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Mark & Spencer	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Emure Stores	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Superdry Stores	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	ELECTRICALS				
1.00	Telephones Rentals	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Cris Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	First Castle Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Lee Refrigeration	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Emas Lighting	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Logica	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Enrgy Serv	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Farnell Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	INDUSTRIALS-Z				
1.00	SI	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Telco	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Wood (SW)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Westland	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Thomson T-line	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Almco Eng	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Saffs Parsons	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Trucon	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Smith Whitworth	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Shah	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	TEXTILES				
1.00	Costa Patons	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Gaskell Broadloom	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Parkland 'A'	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Clack (G)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Clack (H)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Solo Viscose	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Novo Dierckx	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Shaw Carpi	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Dun Burt	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00

BUILDING AND ROADS

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
1.00	Church	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Gratton	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Lincoln Kilgus	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Wigfield (Henry)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Eastover's Clothes	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	House of Fraser	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Mark & Spencer	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Emure Stores	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Superdry Stores	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	ELECTRICALS				
1.00	Telephones Rentals	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Cris Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	First Castle Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Lee Refrigeration	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Emas Lighting	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Logica	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Enrgy Serv	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Farnell Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	INDUSTRIALS-Z				
1.00	SI	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Telco	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Wood (SW)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Westland	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Thomson T-line	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Almco Eng	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Saffs Parsons	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Trucon	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Smith Whitworth	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Shah	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	TEXTILES				
1.00	Costa Patons	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Gaskell Broadloom	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Parkland 'A'	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Clack (G)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Clack (H)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Solo Viscose	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Novo Dierckx	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Shaw Carpi	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Dun Burt	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00

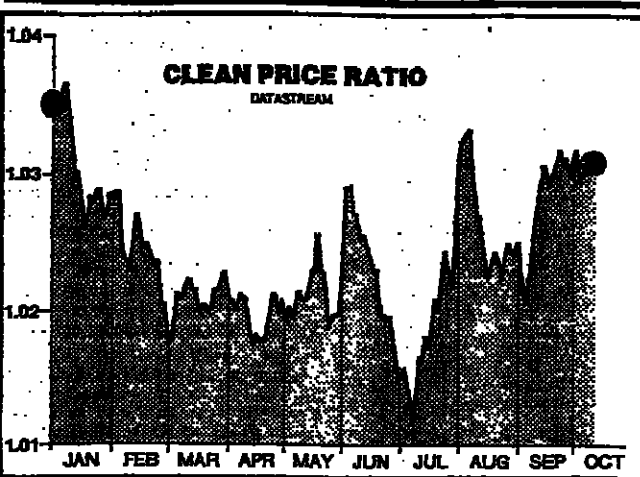
FINANCE AND LAND

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield
1.00	Church	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Gratton	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Lincoln Kilgus	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Wigfield (Henry)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
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1.00	House of Fraser	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Mark & Spencer	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Emure Stores	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Superdry Stores	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	ELECTRICALS				
1.00	Telephones Rentals	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Cris Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	First Castle Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Lee Refrigeration	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Emas Lighting	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Logica	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Enrgy Serv	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Farnell Elec	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	INDUSTRIALS-Z				
1.00	SI	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Telco	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Wood (SW)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Westland	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Thomson T-line	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Almco Eng	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Saffs Parsons	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Trucon	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Smith Whitworth	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Shah	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	TEXTILES				
1.00	Costa Patons	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Gaskell Broadloom	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Parkland 'A'	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Clack (G)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00
1.00	Clack (H)	1.00	0.01	0.01	1.00

THE GILT-EDGED MARKET

Divide risk and make money both ways

Michael Jankowski



One of the most obvious differences among stocks in the gilt-edged market is that investors have the opportunity to invest over varying periods of time. For example, an investor can lock into a yield for five years or for 25 years by buying different stocks.

This possibility creates the problem of valuing these stocks relative to each other and, after that, assessing how these relative values will alter, should overall market levels change.

For simplicity's sake, the value placed on a 15-year stock can be seen as some average of the values placed on a consecutive series of three five-year stocks or a combination of a 10-year stock and a five-year stock. Any movement in the relative value between 15-year issues and those with 10 years to maturity can only occur when investors change their views on the prospects for interest rates in the 10-15 year period.

If they expect higher interest rates than they previously thought likely, the prices of 15-year stocks will fall relative to the prices of 10-year stocks. If, however, investors become more optimistic about interest rates in that period, 15-year issues will out-perform 10-year issues.

On the graph is plotted the relative (clean) price of the Exchequer 12% per cent 1999 (15-year stock) against the Exchequer 12% per cent 1994 (10-year stock). An upward movement in the line indicates the longer stock is outperforming the shorter stock and vice versa. As one can see, the highest relative price occurred in January of this year. This indicated that expectations of future interest rates were low relative to what they were subsequently. The five-year yield available in 10 years' time was about 8% per cent compared with similar yields of 14 per cent plus in 1981.

More recently, this "balance

of term" yield had fallen again to a point just above 9 per cent. This is similar to the price ratio moving close to its January 1984 peak.

I would suggest that this 9 per cent rate is close to the limit. With real (balance of term) yields on index-linked securities at around 3 per cent, this leaves only 6 per cent for inflation without a premium for the risk associated with misforecasting future rates of inflation. While inflation could be lower at that time, one is taking a lot on confidence. Policies as well as governments could change.

If this is the limit then, in a market rise, stocks with more than eight to nine years to maturity are likely to perform equally. One would, therefore, get the same performance by holding the shorter dates with reduced maturity risk.

There are, however, uncertainties. It would seem that the eight to 11-year stocks offer the best potential.

If investors expect long stocks to continue to outperform medium stocks, the most likely reason in the short term for this expectation must be

based on a fall in interest rates. If real interest rates are expected to fall in 10 years' time, long stocks would outperform medium stocks. A fall in real interest rates, however, would make index-linked gilts outperform most conventional stocks. So, if one is bullish about long-term issues, one should buy index-linked issues instead.

I am still bullish on the market and look for a fall in yields. It just happens that, what in present circumstances would be considered a defensive view is also consistent with a bullish view. Fundamental dated issues. Uncertainty supports this view. Great risks exist if real interest rates fall and one is in the shorter dates.

Index-linked gilts are a good hedge against both inflation and general uncertainty and would outperform everything were real yields to fall. I would split my investment funds between 10-year conventional stocks and index-linked issues. Why not make money both ways?

The author is chief bond economist at Simon & Coates, the stockbrokers.

US NOTEBOOK

Secret war behind the predictions

There is a continued drumbeat of predictions on inflation acceleration from "consensus" analysts, but the markets tell another story.

The deep-seated world oil glut is being translated into a war on price. This is not the old-fashioned kind - an overt break in the crude oil price - but a secret price war, no less desperate for that.

Hinge barter deals allow the oil price to be slashed in a way that cannot be identified easily. The terms of barter deals are not reported in open market dealings, but the proliferation of barter is a sure sign that sellers are weak.

The world energy markets is not the only market in fundamental disarray.

The glut in computer products is extending into the whole communications area.

Even the money numbers have overstated the extent of the inflationary pressure.

Mr Peter Canale, monetary economist at Merrill Lynch, recently reported on the work of Rick Kofler of the St Louis Fed and Mr Paul Testa of Criterion Investment Management. According to these economists what we used to call "Money MIA" (currency and demand deposits) gives much better forecasts of inflation than M1.

Money MIA has grown much more slowly than M1. It has explained much better than M1 the combination of strong growth and low inflation.

In the two months ended September, the annual growth rate of MIA dropped in to negative territory, falling at 0.5 per cent a year. In the two months ended August, it fell at a rate of 1.6 per cent a year.

These are important results, as MIA forecast the drop in inflation in 1982 and 1983 far better than M1.

The Federal Reserve appears to have decided on some acceleration of money growth in order to forestall a too-sharp reduction in economic growth.

Maxwell Newton

USM REVIEW

Big two stay top of issues league

Simon & Coates and Phillips & Drew, the brokers topping the USM new issues league, are dangling new offerings before the investing community.

Today S & C is due to place shares in an unusual creation, Hawtal Whiting Holdings, a design engineering consultancy for the motor industry. Dealings in the shares should start next Monday.

Phillips & Drew is a little further along the road with Addison Communications, a corporate design and financial public relations business. The placing was completed last week and the shares make their market debut today.

This means that Simon & Coates still tops the new issues

table. Since the junior market was launched nearly four years ago it had mounted 22 launches. Phillips & Drew is in second spot with 20 offerings.

Both Hawtal Whiting and Addison are service companies with their main assets riding up and down in office lists. A third newcomer, from Henderson Crosthwaite & Co, the broker, is also a service business, Castan Lodge & Knight Group, a new product development consultancy. It is Henderson's second USM issue.

Hawtal Whiting has one of the most erratic profit records of any company to present itself for USM consideration.

Final details of the placing will be agreed this morning but

it seems the company will enjoy a £12.5m market capitalization, reasonable for a business which is forecasting profits of £1.9m in the year to January.

Last year Hawtal made just £442,000. In the previous year, it was £112,000 in the red and the highest it achieved in the three earlier years was £116,000.

Mr Kenneth Sinclair, Hawtal's secretary, explains the profits leap, thus: "The sales volume in all sectors has increased without a corresponding increase in fixed costs".

Hawtal Whiting was started 14 years ago by its three present directors (all formerly with Ford) and has carved out an unusual role in the highly competitive motor industry.

Part of its activity is providing skilled engineers, for example to General Motors. Several factors have left GM short of the people it needs and Hawtal now has 115 of its workforce offering British skills to the American company.

With such a volatile profit record it would be surprising if the group is not in a position to top its £1.9m forecast.

Among the other newcomers, Addison is forecasting profits of £510,000 in the year to December. The company is the result of a merger between the design and public relation groups.

The company's shares were placed at 116p, which values the business at £6.3m.

Derek Pain

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Capitalization £	Company	Price 15/day	Chgs/week	Gross Div pence	Div %	P/E
4,000,000	A & L Tele	1.10	0.05	0.10	9.1	10.0
7,000,000	Adams	1.10	0.05	0.10	9.1	10.0
1,000,000	Adams	1.10	0.05	0.10	9.1	10.0
1,000,000	Adams	1.10	0.05	0.10	9.1	10.0
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Miss Durie cashes in and Dowdeswell regains grip

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Jo Durie beat Anne Hobbs 6-4, 6-3 to retain the women's singles title in the national championships, sponsored by Refuge Assurance, at Telford yesterday. Miss Durie did not lose a set in her five matches, though Annabel Croft led her 5-0 and had five set points in the first set of their semi-final on Saturday.

Miss Durie and Miss Hobbs also retained the doubles title, beating another Wingham pair, Sue Barker and Virginia Wade, 6-3, 6-3 in the final. Miss Durie won a total of £9,000, while Miss Hobbs earned £6,500.

The new men's champion is Wimbledon-born Colin Dowdeswell, who beat Jeremy Bates 6-3, 7-5 in the final. Dowdeswell became the official favourite when John Lloyd withdrew. Another obvious threat, Buster Mottram, was cleared out of his way by John Faver - and Bates produced an admirable performance on Saturday to dispose of last year's winner, Chris Brannan.

Dowdeswell, in short, has done no more than to fulfil the hopes expected of him a year ago. Then he lost the knack of winning and, consequently, discovered that he was playing fewer matches and that his form and confidence were declining. In terms of ability, he obviously had the beating of everyone he played at Telford. His main test was psychological. Could he beat a string of winners and thus regain his confidence? Nick Brown was the only player who, briefly, cornered and flustered him.

Dowdeswell, aged 29, is 6ft 11in tall, 165lb, and has a powerful, gangling figure. He has always been exciting to watch, because of deft

racket-handling and his tactical daring. At Telford he served harder than usual. As a rule he has little or no justification for going to the net - yet insists on playing there. So he gambles on his anticipation and reactions, his reach and his touch, and his timing in taking the ball early.

Yesterday it worked well. There were times when Dowdeswell answered questions. Bates had hardly begun to ask. Bates, though, did ask some awkward questions - especially with his passing shots. Bates broke service to love in the first game. In the second set Dowdeswell had to break service three times before forcing Bates to accept his authority. This was an encouraging tournament for both men.

The slightly built, supple, Miss Hobbs is a gifted athlete who suffers from a lack of serving power. That was how it was yesterday. She hit some superb returns, particularly on the backhand. But she also served no more than 15 mph, and the last of them cost her the match.

Miss Durie had the big guns Miss Hobbs lacked and, for good measure, hit some glorious forehand volleys under pressure. Miss Hobbs was always struggling to stay in the match rather than threatening to take charge of it.

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Saint-Martin reigns supreme on Sagace

From Michael Seely, Paris

Yves Saint-Martin confirmed his ranking as the greatest French jockey of all time, when winning his fourth Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe yesterday. Showing all the confidence that has won the 35-year-old rider 15 champion five-year-old horses and six French Derbys, the darling of the Paris crowds sent Daniel Wildenstein's four-year-old past Strawberry Road into a half-furlong from home.

Northern Trick, attacked by the little digresser, was in the final 200 yards, but Sagace galloped on gamely to win by two lengths. All Along, last year's winner, stayed on to take third place, six lengths away. Then came Esprit du Nord, Strawberry Road and Carlelor.

The strong-looking Anglo-Irish challenge was beaten off early in the straight. Sedler's Wells finished eighth, Sun Princess ninth, Time Charter eleventh, Princess Paul fourteenth, and Rainbow Quest eighteenth. "He hated the going," Tony Murray, the 11th hour replacement for the injured Lester Piggott said of Rainbow Quest. "We were beaten at the top of the hill".

Greville Starkey was thrilled with the running of Strawberry Road, the Australian champion three-year-old in 1983, who looked all over the winner when he set sail for home entering the straight. "Make no mistake, this is a really good horse. But for my money, he doesn't stay more than a mile and a quarter". Starkey said. The Washington International at Laurel Park is the next objective for the five-year-old and it is hoped that Lester Piggott will ride.

There were no excuses for any of the beaten horses. Northern Trick kept on bravely. "She couldn't find her usual zip in the going," Sir Philip Payne-Gallwey, Stavros Niarchos's racing manager said. "She's unlikely to run again this season, but will certainly be kept in training as a four-year-old".

"Sun Princess has never really relished heavy going. Willie Carson said rather surprisingly about last season's Oaks and St Leger winner. "Under the circumstances, she ran pretty well." Steve Cauthen



Sagace and Yves Saint-Martin pass the post well clear of Northern Trick in yesterday's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe

was also pleased with Time Charter. "You can't expect to produce a horse fit to run in conditions like this after a two-month absence from the track. OK, I would certainly recommend her connections to take her to the States for a late autumn campaign".

Smoking a cigarette, Saint-Martin looked cool and relaxed as he sat on the right of Al Wildenstein, the owner's son and Patrick Biancone, the winning trainer, in the post-race conference in the offices of the Société d'Encouragement.

"I was able to take up a good position soon after the Petit Bois. I saw All Along on my inside, and didn't want to spoil whatever chance she might have. So I pulled out, and

tracked Esprit du Nord and Strawberry Road into the straight. After that, it was all plain sailing. "We make our minds up tomorrow whether Sagace will be retired for the season, or whether he'll join All Along in a two-horse raid on the States. Don't forget there's the \$10m Breeders Cup Day at Hollywood Park, California.

Biancone, at 32, is one of the third generation of his family to be involved with training at Lamorlaye. He has now saddled

two Arc winners in consecutive seasons and also captured the Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby) together with other good races with Bikala in 1981.

Previously, Daniel Wildenstein had been high on adrenalin in the unsaddling enclosure, the Parisian millionaire now having won three Arcs with Allez France, All Along, and now Sagace. "I'm getting used to the feeling," he said triumphantly. "And I'm certainly looking forward to the prospect of mating two Arc winners together."

Full result of Arc

Also Race Export Qui Nord (4th) Strawberry Road (5th) Carlelor (6th) Northern Trick (7th) Sedler's Wells (8th) Sun Princess (9th) Time Charter (10th) Rainbow Quest (11th) Princess Paul (12th) Esprit du Nord (13th) Esprit du Nord (14th) Esprit du Nord (15th) Esprit du Nord (16th) Esprit du Nord (17th) Esprit du Nord (18th) Esprit du Nord (19th) Esprit du Nord (20th) Esprit du Nord (21st) Esprit du Nord (22nd) Esprit du Nord (23rd) Esprit du Nord (24th) Esprit du Nord (25th) Esprit du Nord (26th) Esprit du Nord (27th) Esprit du Nord (28th) Esprit du Nord (29th) Esprit du Nord (30th) Esprit du Nord (31st) Esprit du Nord (32nd) Esprit du Nord (33rd) Esprit du Nord (34th) Esprit du Nord (35th) Esprit du Nord (36th) Esprit du Nord (37th) Esprit du Nord (38th) Esprit du Nord (39th) Esprit du Nord (40th) Esprit du Nord (41st) Esprit du Nord (42nd) Esprit du Nord (43rd) Esprit du Nord (44th) Esprit du Nord (45th) Esprit du Nord (46th) Esprit du Nord (47th) Esprit du Nord (48th) Esprit du Nord 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University Appointments

STATE OF KUWAIT

University of Kuwait

University of Kuwait invites applications for the posts of Professors, Assistant Professors and Lecturers, for the academic year 1985/86 tenable for September 1st, 1985, to the following disciplines:

1 - FACULTY OF SCIENCE

1 - Mathematics Department:

Computer Science; Statistics; Operations Research, Applied Mathematics, Numerical Analysis, Differential Equations.

2 - Physics Department:

Molecular, Electronics, Solid State.

3 - Biochemistry Department:

(Full Professor for a contract of one or two years) Biochemical Genetics or Enzymology.

4 - Botany and Microbiology Department:

Plant Pathology, Sea Weeds (Algae).

5 - Zoology Department:

Marine Biology.

6 - Geology Department:

Metamorphic Petrologist, Mineralogist-Crystallographer.

2 - FACULTY OF ARTS

1 - History Department:

African History, Islamic Civilization

2 - Geography Department:

Cartography, Methodology and Geographical Thought, Climatology, Regional Geography.

3 - Philosophy Department:

General Philosophy, Ethics, Contemporary Philosophy.

4 - Psychology Department:

(Fluent in Arabic) Psychology of Learning, Developmental Psy., Psy. of Adjustment, Experimental Psy., Social Psy., General Psychology.

5 - Sociology and Social Work Department:

Anthropology (Cultural Anthropology, General Anthropology), All Fields of Social Work, Sociology (Sociological Theory, Social Methodology, Social Psychology).

3 - FACULTY OF COMMERCE, ECONOMICS & POLITICAL SCIENCE

1 - Accounting and Auditing Department:

Accounting, Information Systems, Accounting Theory, Financial Accounting, Advanced Accounting.

2 - Business Administration Department:

General Management, Marketing, Production & Industrial Management, Finance.

3 - Public Administration Department:

Development Administration, Administration Organization Development, Public Administration, Public Financial Administration, Public Policy, International & Comparative Administration, Human Resources Development/Public Personnel Administration.

4 - Economics Department:

(Lecturer or Asst. Prof.) Economic Development, International Economics, Industrial Economics, Managerial Economics.

5 - Statistics & Insurance Department:

Applied Statistics, Computer (Preferable Statistical Computing), Insurance.

4 - FACULTY OF ENGINEERING & PETROLEUM

1 - Civil Engineering Department:

Sanitary Environmental Engineering, Construction Management.

2 - Electrical and Computer Engineering Department:

(Asst. Prof. or Full Prof.) Computer Engineering and / or Computer Science, Communications.

3 - Mechanical Engineering Department:

(Full Prof.) Thermal & Fluid Sciences (Water Desalination & Energetics).

4 - Chemical Engineering Department:

Kinetics, Reactor Design and Catalysis, Adsorption, Desalination, Natural Gas Processing, Air and Water Pollution, Multicomponent Distillation with Industrial experience in Petroleum Refining.

5 - FACULTY OF EDUCATION

1 - Curriculum & Instruction Department:

Early Childhood Education Curriculum and Instruction, Health Education, Home Economics, Curriculum and Islamic Education.

2 - Foundations of Education Department:

General Area of Foundations of Education, Specific Interest in Elementary Edu., Kindergarten and Akin Areas.

- All applicants must hold Ph.D. Degree or its equivalent.

- ENGLISH is the medium of instruction in the FACULTIES OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING & PETROLEUM... for the other subjects will be in ARABIC.

- Method of teaching at Kuwait University is based on the credit hours system.

- Applications should be submitted not later than 31st December, 1984, on special forms which can be obtained from CULTURAL ATTACHE OFFICES, KUWAIT EMBASSIES IN LONDON OR IN WASHINGTON.

- Monthly salaries as follow:

Professor: K.D. 1070/- - K.D. 1230/-

Assistant Professor: K.D. 875/- - K.D. 1035/-

Lecturer: K.D. 680/- - K.D. 840/-

Occupational allowance will be given to professor (K.D. 105/-), Assistant Professor (K.D. 57/-) and Lecturer (K.D. 44/-) only for Faculty of Engineering.

(Current exchange rate for K.D. is £ 2.26 \$ 3.40 approx.)

- Benefits:

- Annual air passage for the person, the wife and up to three children below 20 years old.

- Tuition allowance for the children up to Secondary School Level in accordance with University regulations.

- One month basic salary, gratuity at the end of the contract for each year served.

- Summer and mid-year paid leaves.

- Reasonably furnished accommodation.

Application together with a copy non-returned of the academic qualifications and the candidate's publication should be sent by registered post directly to the Department of Administrative Affairs, Kuwait University, P.O. Box 5988, Kuwait, not later than 31st December, 1984.

Judy Farquharson

47 New Bond Street, London, W1Y 9HA, 01-626 8524

CARE

NO SHORTLAND

Unlucky secretary/office administrator to work for a large company in the City. Good typing (60+), bookkeeping, car driver, best £6,000 + car.

PUBLISHING PERSONALITY

Need 2nd assistant, age 25-30, to help identify PA and assist in the running of a publishing company. Must be a good typist and have a good knowledge of the publishing industry. Good salary and benefits. Please send CV to: JFL, 47 New Bond Street, London, W1Y 9HA.

CITY P.A.

£25,000 + mortgage

Top class career minded PA with excellent secretarial skills to work for financial director of large City company. Assist with special projects and handle supervisory and administrative responsibilities. Previous director level experience essential. Generous package. Age 30-40.

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22, South Molton St. W1 (Reg. Cora)

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This is a rare opportunity for a top Secretary with S/H and some Audio. You will need to be well presented and a good organizer as well as having an excellent telephone manner, good typing skills and a cheerful disposition to play your part in the team that runs this highly successful Property Co. £20,000 p.a.

Please ring 826 7181 for an immediate appointment.

Executive Secretary

HOLBORN

Competent, personable secretary required to work for Managing Director and Finance Director of a company in the printing industry. Applicants should be aged between 25 and 35 and have good secretarial skills. The ability to cope in bosses' frequent absences from the office is essential. Some bookkeeping experience helpful. Salary in region of £9,000 p.a.

Please ring Mary on 01 405 7451.

RUN THE OFFICE

c £8,000

All round capable secretary with excellent skills, to work for small firm of three consultants, who share premises with an advertising agency near London Bridge Station. Apart from handling general secretarial duties, will need to be able to organize (on one else) and able to cope.

Ring Elizabeth Hargrave-Dutton 403 5729

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Requires efficient Secretary/Administrator for busy, friendly office in Kensington Church St. Preferred age 20/24. Good salary with excellent prospects. Contact Cindy McLean

Tel: 937 0959

8.30 - 1.30

Experienced mature PA/Sec to work in private house close Fulham Rd. Excellent salary for right person.

Tel: 01-222 4804 (10am-4pm)

SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCY

Well known international consultancy firm requires a mature, efficient, and experienced secretary to handle the day to day running of the office. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment of senior executives and middle management. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment of senior executives and middle management. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment of senior executives and middle management.

For further details Tel 01-629 8863 Hodge Recruitment 01-629 8863

JOAN TREE AGENCY

01-459 4946 25 South Molton Street W1

COME IN AND SEE US

Our City office is currently searching for a wide variety of staff. It is impossible for us to list all of our vacancies as it would take too long to do so. If you are interested in any of our vacancies, please come in to see us. We will be able to discuss your career in detail and if you need advice as to what your next step should be we will be very happy to assist you.

Elizabeth Hunt RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS 23 College Hill London EC4 Telephone 01-236 3712

Career Prospects

Oil Company £8,000 pa neg

Secretary 25+ years with skills of 60/100 to assist head of project team. Duties include minutes of meetings, arranging conferences, travel and general admin. Will train on Word Processor, free lunch and many other benefits. Good promotion opportunity.

Veronica Lapa 837-8525

ABC RECRUITMENT

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£10,000 AGE 35-40

Dynamic head of important financial organization in SE1 needs a top S/H PA with excellent shorthand and typing skills. Applicants should be aged 35-40, preferably a graduate with financial experience and the ability to work under pressure.

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The Secretarial Consultants

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OXFORD

Senior Editor requires experienced career secretary age 25 to 35. Excellent typing and organizational skills. Good educational background. Pleasant and confident. Excellent salary and benefits. Please send CV to: Philip Carpenter, 108 Cowley Road, Oxford, OX4 1JF.

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Flat + c £8,000

We need two skilled Secretaries/Housekeepers, Age 25-40, one domestic and one office. Good salary and benefits. Please send CV to: Call Lana Jeffers on 408 1637.

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£7,000 neg

To the Sales and Marketing Director of a large international company. Good salary and benefits. Please send CV to: Call Lana Jeffers on 408 1637.

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Top class career minded PA with excellent secretarial skills to work for financial director of large City company. Assist with special projects and handle supervisory and administrative responsibilities. Previous director level experience essential. Generous package. Age 30-40.

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ADVERTISING/CONSUMER AGENCIES

University Appointments

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
Notice to Members of the University
The Vice-Chancellor

The Senate in consultation with the Court has established a Committee to consider and make recommendations on the appointment of a Vice-Chancellor from 1 September 1985 in succession to Professor Randolph Quirk who has indicated his resolve to retire on completion of his four year period of office as Vice-Chancellor on 31 August 1985 when he will have reached normal retirement age.

Under the Statutes of the University the Vice-Chancellor is the academic and administrative head of the University and will normally be chosen from among the members of the University. The Vice-Chancellor will be appointed for a period of between two and four years and will be eligible for re-appointment for one further period not exceeding four years.

The Committee invites members of the University who may wish to suggest a name or names for consideration (particularly of members of the University) to write in confidence by Monday 22 October 1984 to the Secretary of the Committee, Mr P Taylor, Clerk of the Senate, Senate House, Malet Street, WC1E 7HU. Communications should be marked "Personal".

NUFFIELD COLLEGE OXFORD OXI 1NF
RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Applications are invited from scientists and engineers for research fellowships in the following areas: Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Medicine, Engineering, and the Social Sciences. The fellowships are open to both British and foreign citizens and are available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Nuffield Foundation, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

GIRTON COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE

Applications are invited for two Research Fellowships for 1985-86. The fellowships are open to both British and foreign citizens and are available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Girton College, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

University of East Anglia
Norwich

Applications are invited for two Research Fellowships for 1985-86. The fellowships are open to both British and foreign citizens and are available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the University of East Anglia, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

University of Swansea
Lecturers

Applications are invited for two Lectureships in the Department of Physics. The appointments are for full-time positions and are available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the University of Swansea, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SWANSEA
WEST GLAMORGAN HEALTH AUTHORITY
RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP

Applications are invited for a Research Studentship for 1985-86. The studentship is open to both British and foreign citizens and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the University of Swansea, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
CHAIR OF TISSUE
PATHOLOGY TENABLE AT ST
GEORGE'S HOSPITAL
MEDICAL SCHOOL

Applications are invited for the Chair of Tissue Pathology at St George's Hospital Medical School. The appointment is for a full-time position and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the University of London, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD
DIRECTOR OF THE
COMMERCIAL AND
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
BUREAU

Applications are invited for the Director of the Commercial and Industrial Development Bureau. The appointment is for a full-time position and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the University of Sheffield, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

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UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
Professorial Appointment

Applications are invited for a Professorial Appointment in the Department of Physics. The appointment is for a full-time position and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the University of Warwick, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
Chair of Education with special
reference to the teaching of
English in education

Applications are invited for the Chair of Education with special reference to the teaching of English in education. The appointment is for a full-time position and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the University of London, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

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HORIZONS
The Times guide to career choice

Wholesome prospects

Sally Hesmondhalgh on work in the health food industry

At a time when newspapers daily lament shrinking industries and lost jobs, it is heartening for young job seekers to learn of one business sector which is actually expanding, with continued growth forecast up to the end of this century.

In the last five years the market for health foods - everything from breakfast muesli to vitamin supplements and herbal teas - has doubled in size. What opportunity does this booming industry offer to the young person starting out on a career?

Starting work as a counter assistant no longer means a lifetime behind the scales, because health food is becoming big business both in Britain and America. As the public has become more conscious of the need to stay fit by eating less refined foods, large firms have sprung up to supply the demand. It is now possible to trace a path up to senior management level and in the last two years, formal training has become available to help the aspiring ascend the career ladder.

Britain's biggest company in this field is Booker Health Foods, which owns publishing and retail firms. One part of the group, Brewster's, is now the largest wholesaler in Europe. Mr Colin Tophill is trade development director of Booker Health Foods. What future can his company offer a young entrant?

"There are many opportunities for young people. In the late 1970s I forecast that the market would have doubled by 1985, and people thought I was wrong. But in that time it has gone from £80 million to £160 million, and by 1990 I believe there will be substantially more growth."

"At present there are about 1,400 specialist health food shops. Consumer interest is growing, and by 1990 there could be as many as 1,800 to 2,000 outlets, providing there is careful development so as not to saturate the market."

Mr Ivor Vale now runs a flourishing health food shop and restaurant, and customers in the county town of Hereford queue up to buy his salads and wholesome pastries. But only 12 years ago, then in his mid-forties, Mr Vale was employed in a completely different trade as transport manager with a local poultry firm.

His career change was precipitated when an empty shop caught his eye as he enjoyed a Sunday stroll. He knew little about health foods, although he enjoyed sampling them from a shop in another town. "I liked the atmosphere, the smell of the place," he said.

Looking at the empty shop, formerly part of a large ironmongery, he thought it would make an ideal health food shop. "I rang the estate agents next morning," said Mr Vale. They wanted £6,000, but the shop needed a lot of work on it, and I offered £4,000, not expecting any success. I was very surprised to get a reply saying 'Yes'."

He and his wife raised the money by taking out a second mortgage on their home, and borrowing from a bank. The ironmongery company helped, allowing him to retain part of

Malvern Girls' College
DEPUTY HEAD

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BRITISH INSTITUTE IN EASTERN AFRICA
Research Fellowships

Applications are invited for Research Fellowships in the Department of African Studies. The fellowships are open to both British and foreign citizens and are available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the British Institute in Eastern Africa, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

BURSARS

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LANYON COLLEGE, DEVON

Qualified tuition to all examination levels. Recommended fees 11-17 years (boarding 8 days). The Secretary, Lanyon College, Exeter, Devon. Tel: 0392 67474.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY
GOVERNMENT GRANTS FOR OVERSEAS FIELD RESEARCH

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WORCESTER CATHEDRAL
CHOIR

Boys who will be 10 or 11 in September 1985 are invited to apply for the Worcester Cathedral Choir. The choir is open to both British and foreign citizens and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Worcester Cathedral, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

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UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
LECTURESHIP IN STATISTICS

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UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
LECTURESHIP IN PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Chemistry. The appointment is for a full-time position and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the University of Edinburgh, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

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Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Statistics. The appointment is for a full-time position and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the University of Warwick, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
LECTURESHIP IN PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the Department of Chemistry. The appointment is for a full-time position and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the University of Edinburgh, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

Malvern Girls' College
DEPUTY HEAD

The College Council invites applications for the post of Deputy Head which will become vacant on September 1st 1985. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the College and will report to the Headmaster. The post is a full-time position and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Malvern Girls' College, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

BRITISH INSTITUTE IN EASTERN AFRICA
Research Fellowships

Applications are invited for Research Fellowships in the Department of African Studies. The fellowships are open to both British and foreign citizens and are available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the British Institute in Eastern Africa, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

BURSARS

Small professional summer courses are available for students. The courses are open to both British and foreign citizens and are available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Bursars, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

UCCA APPLICATION?

Applications are invited for the UCCA (University Career Guidance Association) scheme. The scheme is open to both British and foreign citizens and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the UCCA, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

LANYON COLLEGE, DEVON

Qualified tuition to all examination levels. Recommended fees 11-17 years (boarding 8 days). The Secretary, Lanyon College, Exeter, Devon. Tel: 0392 67474.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY
GOVERNMENT GRANTS FOR OVERSEAS FIELD RESEARCH

Applications for Overseas Field Research grants for 1985 are invited. The grants are open to both British and foreign citizens and are available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Royal Society, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

LORETO SCHOOL
HEAD OF ENGLISH

Applications are invited for the Head of English at Loreto School. The appointment is for a full-time position and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Loreto School, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

WORCESTER CATHEDRAL
CHOIR

Boys who will be 10 or 11 in September 1985 are invited to apply for the Worcester Cathedral Choir. The choir is open to both British and foreign citizens and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Worcester Cathedral, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

LEARN GERMAN, ITALIAN up to

Learn German, Italian up to the level of the Department of German and Italian Studies. The course is open to both British and foreign citizens and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Department of German and Italian Studies, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

ENGLISH QUALIFIED TEACHER

English Qualified Teacher for the Department of English Studies. The appointment is for a full-time position and is available for periods of up to three years. The salary scale is £12,000 to £18,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Department of English Studies, 100 Brook Green, London W8 7PS.

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FALSTAFF**
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